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March 26, 1981

Police Push Crack-Down On Neighborhood

In an effort to combat an alarming rash of vandalism and disturbances in the Clover Hill and Valley Brook neighborhood of Feeding Hills, Police Chief Stanley Chmielewski told 100 concerned residents Friday night that increased patrols and "taking those arrested to the limits" will be utilized.

Neighborhood Pest

Chmielewski issued those and other remarks at Town Hall when residents gathered to protest a growing neighborhood pest: youth gangs.

According to the Chief, vandalism of cable television lines, mailboxes, street lights along with harassment of residents has been on the increase in the neighborhoods by local youths who reside on the streets in question.

He said the youths, most of whom are under seventeen, also have been abusing alcohol. "And there has been some drug use there, too," Chmielewski added. "It's reached the point that people in those neighborhoods just won't take this kind of intimidation to private and public property anymore. That was the point made to us on Friday and we will do everything in our power to settle the matter," said Chmielewski.

Homeowners asked Chmielewski for stepped up patrols which the Chief said were already underway with both marked and unmarked cruisers.

The establishment of a neighborhood crime watch program, which has proven to be a successful deterrent to crime in other sections of the community, is another method that the department will use to rectify the situation.

A third method, one that Chmielewski said may prove to be the most effective, is to impose strict restitution fines on the parents of youths found committing acts of vandalism or creating public disturbances.

Met Individually

"We have already met individually with several of the alleged troublemakers and their parents in recent weeks. I have gone personally to the neighborhood and talked with parents about their children."

Chmielewski further stated, "I made it clear that we won't tolerate any future problems from youths in those neighborhoods and if we come in and arrest we will follow-up the prosecution process to its fullest extent."

Chmielewski said two recent arrests solved a total of nine related housebreaks. Last spring, he said, the neighborhood was plagued by housebreaks.

Chmielewski said that the community has for many years encountered problems caused by youth gangs in several sections of town and that the police force has attempted to attack the situation.

He pointed to a drinking ordinance passed by Town Council several years ago to curb alcohol consumption in public ways during the summer months as one valuable tool for the department.

"Things have calmed down the last few summers compared to other years," he said. "We still have our problems but, as of now, not like the past."

The Chief stated that the Crime Prevention Bureau of the department will help educate residents in the Crime Watch Program.

Crime Watch Works

He noted that on the same afternoon that he spoke to residents of the Clover Hill, Valley Brook, Forest Hills neighborhood, a youth was arrested on Thalia Drive for an attempted housebreak.

He said the juvenile was seen climbing into a window of the home by a neighbor who promptly called in the police.

"We need more of these Crime Watch Programs in the town, especially the trouble spots and I know we will be able to solve these problems with the help of townspeople."

Patrolmen Receive Defense Certificates



Three Agawam Police Officers, Patrolman Richard B. Curry, Sgt. Robert E. Rossi, and Patrolman Wayne K. Macey recently graduated from the Smith & Wesson Academy Defensive Tactics Instructors School. During the session the officers were trained in the teaching techniques and technical skills used in defensive tactics instruction. Among the skills learned and demonstrated by the officers were search and handcuffing techniques, close confrontation tactics, teaching skills and physical defense procedures. In the picture are, from left Curry, Rossi, Director of the Smith and Wesson Academy, Charles L. Smith, and Macey. Courses of all aspects of firearms, non-lethal weaponry and a variety of technical subjects are offered to public and private law enforcement and security personnel.

Fieldstad Says 'No Go' This Fall Fresh Blood, Ideas Needed

By Stephen Gazillo

Council President Paul Fieldstad, explaining his family has taken enough "abuse" and citing the need for "fresh blood and fresh ideas in town government," announced today that he will not seek re-election to Town Council next fall.

Slow Pace

The decision would end a five term tenure as on the 15-member council, the last one as council president, and would slow the pace of his twenty years of active political life in Agawam.

"I think I've put a lot into this town, and I've had my share of successes, but I think it's time now for fresh ideas and new faces," Fieldstad said.

He stated that he and his family have had enough of the "personal abuse" that goes with being a political figure in Agawam.

"We could have a much better government here if everything wasn't on a personal basis," he today commented. "It's hard to get people to serve in government when they and their families are always subject to personal abuse; you can only take so much of that and then you've had enough," he added.

He said his decision was in no way influenced by the abortive attempt of several councilors to remove him as council president in January.

First elected council president in January, 1979, he survived the ouster bid midway through his term by an 8-6 margin.

"I've tried to be responsible to the people and I've always tried to be straight with them," he said of the nine and a half years representing Precinct Six.

Town Meeting Member

Before the council/manager charter was adopted in 1971, Fieldstad was a town meeting member.

A long list of projects and activities highlight his political career here. As chairman of both the high school and library building committees, he led the drive to build the \$3.5 million addition to the high school and he helped initiate plans for the construction of the \$750,000 public library.

He chaired the airport acquisition committee, which he said helped "start the ball rolling" for the creation of an industrial park at Bowles Airport property, now being considered by the Springfield Area Development Corporation. He was also influential in the formation of the new Agawam Chamber of Commerce this year.

He served five years on the Planning Board in the late sixties and has been a long time advocate of "controlled growth." Working with fellow board members, he recalled staying up in a blizzard one night to finalize the A-3 zoning law which controls the amount of high density building on property here.

Recently, Fieldstad has pushed for a moratorium on development in town, a controversial move which he says is not politically motivated as evidenced by his decision not to run in November.

"I've been in government for 20 years, and I keep bringing up this issue of controlling growth because we've been building faster than our ability to provide services."

He continued, "I brought up the idea of a moratorium because I think it's time the town stops and takes a long look at the problems we have."

Fieldstad said he plans to devote more time to his family and will serve as a vice-president to the Agawam Lion's Club. He has resided in Agawam since 1939.

Connelly To Address Teachers On Prop. 2 1/2

State Representative Edward W. Connelly will speak with Agawam teachers, Friday, March 27 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Agawam High School on possible steps to be taken by the state legislature to counteract the effects of Proposition 2 1/2 on Massachusetts' public schools, according to Peter Lowrey, President of the Agawam Education Association.

"Connelly will also be explaining his own bill which would allow the state to send the sales tax revenue back to the cities and towns to aid education, in the face of Proposition 2 1/2," Lowrey said.

According to Lowrey, up to 109 teachers are slated for layoff if Town Council makes further cuts in the school budget.

"Hopefully, Representative Connelly will have some good news for Agawam teachers," Lowrey said, "but it might be too little and too late to help us next year."

Lowrey also announced that Agawam teachers will be attending the statewide rally sponsored by the Massachusetts Teachers Association in Boston on Saturday, March 28.

Thousands of parents and teachers are expected to attend.

"The purpose of the rally will be to show the state legislature that teachers need urgent and immediate help in offsetting the devastating effects of Proposition 2 1/2 on public education," Lowrey concluded.

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School Board Makes Program Changes

By Joanne Brown

Several changes in programs marked last Tuesday's School Committee meeting, including alterations in the starting times of three elementary schools in the district.

In accordance with a budget adoption which eliminates the need for one bus at a savings of \$17,000, a proposed revision in school starting times was approved. Those schools affected are Granger, which currently starts at 9:10 and will start next September at 8:15; Phelps, which now begins at 8:15 and next fall will open at 8:45; and Clark, which now starts at 8:45 and will open at 9:10 next fall.

Superintendent of Schools Louis Hebert reported that all principals had been notified of the changes and understood the financial reasoning behind them.

Also approved for revision was the Work/Study Program currently offered at Agawam High. Stricter requirements for class attendance as well as maintenance of acceptable grade averages will be emphasized in order for students to remain in the program.

This program is designed to allow students to leave school after fourth period to go to jobs in which they may gain valuable work experience and skills.

Hebert pointed out that the program has become somewhat lax in that students are being allowed to leave school early even if they do not have a job which begins immediately after school.

"It's a serious flaw in the program to allow students to leave school early even though their work hours may not begin until 6 p.m.," Hebert noted. "We don't want to dangle getting out of school early as some sort of prize."

The committee concurred with allowing to leave school early only those students with jobs to which they could go immediately afterwards. They also stressed that school personnel should seek jobs for students which provide an element of training and not "merely serve as an employment agency."

Two additional high ability science courses were added to the High School curriculum: one in chemistry and one in physics. The courses could serve up to 24 students in accordance with physical laboratory facilities, but would accept a minimum enrollment of 15, according to Hebert.

Mrs. Ginia Allison presented the committee with an update on the Title IV-C Wide Horizons project now in its second of a 3-year program in Agawam schools.

Director for this federally-funded project, Mrs. Allison briefly covered the materials gathered in kits designed to fit curriculum needs in our schools and stressed her hope that validation procedures to be conducted this summer will find the program successful.

Mrs. Allison indicated that all of the individuals involved with Wide Horizons believe Agawam students will show marked improvement in skills as well as in creative thinking. Successful validation insures full funding for the project's third year with the possibility of funding for a fourth year.

Parent Group For Gifted Being Organized

During Citizen Speak Time, Mrs. Judith Hebert, a parent of a Clark School student, informed the committee of plans currently underway to organize a Parent Advisory Group for academically talented students.

She reported that she and others had recently attended a statewide gathering of similar groups and had discovered many enrichment programs now being conducted by these parent groups. She stated that a meeting is being organized to draw together all Agawam parents who may have interest in enriching activities for gifted students. She promised to keep the committee and the public informed as to their progress.

In other action, the board approved a school calendar for 81-82 which has a late opening (Sept. 8) due to the date of Labor Day this year and, therefore, a late closing date of June 28. This schedule includes provision for four snow days.

Date Set For Public Hearing On Budget

An April 7th date was set for the public hearing on the School Department budget. It has been scheduled on the same evening as a special meeting the committee has planned.

In final action, the committee voted to postpone release of executive session minutes dating back to last spring which cover negotiations on Supt. Hebert's contract. The majority expressed a desire to review portions of the minutes which include other items that would have to be deleted from the public release. Mrs. Venetta Snyder had requested all minutes dealing with Hebert's contract negotiations be released.

Earlier in the meeting, the regular and executive session minutes for the meetings of February 24, March 3, 9, 10, and 12 had been approved for release.

Lioness Club To Sponsor Hearing Dog Presentation

On April 2nd, the Agawam-Feeding Hills Lioness Club will sponsor a live "Hearing Ear Dog Demonstration" at the Agawam Lions Den on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition.

A meal priced at \$5.50 per person will be served at 7 p.m., followed by the demonstration. Sheila O'Brien from the New England Education Center Hearing Dog Program in Jefferson, Massachusetts, will conduct the demonstration.

The public is cordially to this event. Contact Joy Poggi of 27 Howard Street, Agawam, prior to March 30th.

**AN EARTH-
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Marshall Chosen Labor Counsel

Special Labor Counsel Arthur M. Marshall of Springfield received favorable reviews following a workshop session Monday where Town Manager Richard Bowen and the attorney outlined plans and answered questions about the effects Proposition 2 1/2 has on municipal labor contracts.

Veteran Counsel

Marshall, a veteran labor counselor, was recently hired by Bowen to aid in the upcoming bargaining process with the town's seven bargaining units.

Each unit will begin negotiating with both Bowen and Marshall in September.

Bowen said he will approach Town Council for additional funds to pay Marshall for his services since the law department's budget now lacks sufficient funds.

"I was impressed with the responses we received from the attorney," said councilor Richard Theroux after the meeting. "He was straightforward and that's what we need."

Marshall told councilors that the loss of binding arbitration for the fire and police unions due to Proposition 2 1/2 and a new recognition by legislative bodies that "they have the power over contracts must not take away from good faith bargaining."

He said that the council has the authority to reject funding for a contract despite the fact it may have another year before expiration. Marshall said a new contract would be necessary.

According to Bowen, contractual obligations to municipal unions will be included in his budget to be presented to the council next week.

Has The Authority

The council would then have the authority to either fund all contracts or force new negotiations. Prior to the passage of Proposition 2 1/2, the manager had the

authority to sign contracts without the council's consent.

Council President Paul Fieldstad noted that the responsibility of contracts in the past has been shouldered by the Town Manager with the council giving token approval to the funding.

"It was always frustrating and now we seem to be heading in the direction where we know what our responsibility is," Fieldstad said.

Marshall stressed that the council has the responsibility and authority over all monetary aspects of municipal contracts, but the manager reserves the responsibility for other areas of the pact.

Both Bowen and Marshall agreed that when dealing with possible municipal employee layoffs the best posture for the administration to take would be to cooperate with the unions and keep communication lines open at all times.

"But the town still reserves the right to regulate how many people it wants working for it and the council can control this by the level of funding for each department it provides," Marshall said.

Bowen said he has met with the leadership of each union in recent weeks to discuss the possible impacts of Proposition 2 1/2. He said more specifics will be focused upon during the council's budget deliberations in April.

Pushed The Council

According to Theroux, Proposition 2 1/2 has pushed the council "up front" on municipal contracts but noted that the council has always possessed the ability to exercise more control of the contracts.

The seven units to meet with the administration beginning in September represent the firefighters, police supervisors, police union, public works employees, clerical workers, school nurses and school custodians.

Spring Cleanup Schedule

The Agawam Department of Public Works wishes to announce to town residents that the annual Spring Cleanup will be conducted from April 6-30. It should be noted that two days are allowed for the collection of each route.

Materials to be collected are solid wastes including, but not limited to, rubber tires, automobile parts, demolition waste, plumbing fixtures, furniture, mattresses, bedsprings, refrigerators, stoves, water heaters, metal pipes, other bulky wastes, and bagged leaves and lawn rakings.

Materials specifically excluded from this collection are rubbish, garbage, liquid wastes of any kind, automobile chassis, bodies and motors, tree stumps, branches, brush, lawn clippings and hedge trimmings.

Materials to be collected must be on the treebelt by 7 a.m. of the first of the two scheduled days and shall be placed separate and apart from the regular household rubbish when the dates for the two collections coincide. All small or loose items must be placed in plastic bags or in containers having a maximum capacity of 30 gallons.

The schedule for collection is as follows:

- Route 1 - April 6 & 7
- Route 2 - April 8 & 9
- Route 3 - April 13 & 14
- Route 4 - April 15 & 16
- Route 5 - April 20 & 21
- Route 6 - April 22 & 23
- Route 7 - April 27 & 28
- Route 8 - April 29 & 30

It should be noted that bagged leaves will be picked up as part of the Spring Cleanup. The pickup of leaves during the regular bi-weekly rubbish collection, however, will be limited to seven bags per collection.

Terese Restaurant

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Open Air Burning Allowed Till May 1

The Agawam Fire Department would like to announce that open air burning with a permit from their department will be allowed until May 1, 1981.

Materials which may be burned are brush, twigs, and tree clippings. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To apply for a permit, call the Fire Department at 786-2662 the day on which the permit is requested for. Leave your name, address, and phone number.

If the officer in charge deems the weather conditions are favorable, a permit will be issued verbally to the person making the request.

Pastel Painting Demonstration

By Noted Artist William Schultz
Sunday Evening March 29th - 7:00 P.M.

Agawam Senior Center

Wright Street, Agawam

Public Invited * No Admission Fee

Sponsored By

Agawam Arts And Humanities Council

Macaroni & Meatball Dinner

Sunday - April 5 - 12:30 To 5:30 P.M.

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Adults - \$3.25 Children \$1.75

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Unico

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Health Scholarships & Community Charities**



Officer Skip Malone recently received his helicopter pilot's license and hopes for the day when the W. Mass area will possess a regional police helicopter patrol. Photo by Jack Devine.

Town Has "Copter Cop" In Malone

By Stephen Gazillo

With over 100 hours logged as a helicopter pilot, eight years experience as a policeman, and a life-long affair with the Town of Agawam, Patrolman Anthony "Skip" Malone has an uncommon vision for the future.

Regional Patrol

He sees the day when a regional patrol of helicopters will be ready in a second's notice to save a dying child or track down fleeing criminals.

"I can think of at least three times when a patrol of helicopters would have saved lives that are now lost," the 31 year-old Malone said. You see, he's not just dreaming.

Since last October, he's leaped from the role of vegetable farmer by day and patrolman for the "no man's land" of District Two by night to the skies in a

Robinson R-22 helicopter.

Armed with his newly acquired helicopter license since February, he's ready.

Malone typifies the Agawam policemen by being atypical and full of hidden talents.

"Skip" grew up in Agawam as the son of farmer Ernest Malone of Silver Street. In high school, he became an accomplished gymnast when the town didn't even have a team.

He played football, Triple A baseball, and married the former Joanne Attardi. Today, they have two children, Ernest, 9 and Matthew, 6.

In 1968, Skip joined the Army at Fort Dix, New Jersey and served six years as a radio teletype operator. He boxed in his spare time.

Appointed In 1973

He was appointed to the Agawam Police force in 1973, a job he says he "wouldn't trade for a million dollars."

"The people I work with are true friends, and they're always there when you need them," he said.

Presently, Skip works the 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. shift, patrolling twelve miles of Agawam's richest farmland near the Southwick and Suffield borders. "It's a no-man's land at night," he said of his beat.

Over the years, he has picked up a law enforcement degree from STCC and he now holds and Emergency Medical Technician certificate.

He recalled his toughest night on the force five years ago. He, and Officer Norman Nardi made an emotionally wrenching attempt to save the life of a two-year old baby. The baby, already out of oxygen when they reached her, died on the way to the hospital.

"That broke me," Skip said. Otherwise, he's intrepid. He has long argued for better working conditions for police and for a place for the policemen to work out.

After two years of lobbying for a universal gym, it would appear his efforts are coming to fruition in April. "It's important for the men on the force to stay in good physical condition," he said. "We'll have a universal gym here soon."

Loves The Outdoors

Skip's love for the outdoors perhaps explains why he enjoys being a helicopter pilot.

"People have many misconceptions about helicopters," he pointed out. The most common, he says, is that helicopters crash more easily than an airplane.

"That's totally false. If the engine of your copter fails, you can still manage to land safely based on the fact that you can glide forward three-quarters of a foot for every foot you fall. That's a pretty good ratio," he says.

Skip has a professional attitude towards his work: "On this job," he says, "you have to treat people the way you would want to be treated. I guess you can say I like Agawam, its people, and the job."

Keep a look-out for the helicopter patrol. Skip sure is.

Brush Dump Won't Reopen This Spring

The Department of Public Works wishes to announce that the brush and leaf disposal area at the end of Tennis Road will not be reopening this spring. The disposal area which is on land owned by Ralph D'Amato has been filled to capacity and must be closed.

D'Amato had allowed the town to operate the disposal area for many years at no charge, for which the town is grateful as the town owns no land on which to operate such a facility. To date, an environmentally acceptable site that would have a life span sufficient to justify development costs has not

been found, though the DPW continues to seek one.

The State Department of Environmental Quality Engineering has advised that a new facility of this nature is considered a sanitary landfill and is subject to state regulations for their establishment and operation. Plans specifications and design data must be approved by the DEQE for the development and operation of such a facility. This is in addition to a designation of the area by the local Board of Health.

The cost of design development and operation of a

landfill make the operation for a limited purpose such as brush disposal uneconomical.

Residents are advised that leaves and lawn clippings are taken with the regular bi-weekly rubbish collection. Up to seven plastic bags will be taken on each collection. Also, hedge trimmings and brush are taken on the bi-weekly collection provided they are cut in four foot lengths and tied together in bundles weighing not more than 50 pounds.

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MAKING FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Some persons have made funeral arrangements before. Others - particularly those under 40 - have not. When someone you love has died you must make numerous decisions. You should consider those who shared in the life of the deceased as well as the lifestyle of the person who died. Every death affects others. Most times there are relatives, friends and associates who survive. Often the community is involved as well. We will give you the benefit of our knowledge and past experience. There are needs to be met, concerns to be faced and preferences to think about. We will give you the options. The decisions will be yours.

COLONIAL FUNERAL CHAPEL

985 Main St., Agawam
733-3625

A Forastiere Service

SOCIAL



Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Pond

Ponds Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Pond of 845 Main Street recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on February 21. They were married on that date in 1931.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Pond are active members of the Agawam Congregational Church and belong to the church's Merriweds Club.

Mrs. Pond is active in the Agawam Women's Club and in the Agawam Garden Club. Mr. Pond is an active participant in the Agawam Senior Center.

Both have been residents of Agawam for sixty years and have two children, Raymond and Dorothy, and four grandchildren.

The family celebrated the occasion by going to dinner followed by a small gathering at home.

MUNICIPAL EVENTS

Sponsored By

COLONIAL FUNERAL CHAPEL

Friday, March 27
Street Acceptance Committee
Town Hall
3:45 p.m.

Tuesday, March 31
Manager's Budget Presentation
Public Library
7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 31
Honorary Citizen's Award Comm.
Public Library
8:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 2
Planning Board Public Hearing
Town Hall
7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 6
Town Council Meeting
Public Library
8 p.m.

985 Main St., Agawam
733-3625
Non-Sectarian
A Forastiere Service

COLONIAL FUNERAL CHAPEL

Local Legislators To Attend Church Council Coffee

Several local legislators have indicated their intention to attend the Legislative Coffee Hour to be sponsored jointly by the Council of Churches' Division of Christian Social Relations, the Springfield Area League of Women Voters, and Church Women United.

Coffee and doughnuts will be served and the public is invited to attend this event on March 28th from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Park Memorial Baptist Church at the corner of Forest Park Avenue and Garfield Street. Among the many area legislators scheduled to attend is Rep. Edward W. Connelly (R-Agawam).

F.H. Women's Club Meets

The April 1st meeting of the Feeding Hills Women's Club will be held at the Grange Hall on North West Street at 8 p.m.

After the meeting, the program will include Lucille Camyre of the American Cancer Society, who will show a film on breast self-examination.

Friendship Tea Slated

The Agawam Women's Club will hold its springtime tea on Tuesday, April 7th, at 1:30 p.m. at the Capt. Charles Leonard House. Carl Alsing of Somers, Connecticut, will show his slides of Spring Flowers.

All senior ladies of Agawam are cordially invited to come for this afternoon program.

LaLeche Reunion Planned

A reunion of nursing mothers will be the highlight of a spring fashion show sponsored by La Leche League in Western Massachusetts to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the organization.

The fashion show will be held on Sunday, April 5th, at 2 p.m. at Twin Hills Country Club, 700 Wolf Swamp Road, Longmeadow and will feature a flaming dessert, cheese and crackers, and prizes. Dorothy Dodd and Motherhood Maternity will put on the fashions.

Among the special guests that afternoon will be Doris Preston of Agawam, who along with the others special women to be honored, has been active in state level positions.

A special invitation is extended to any woman who has attended LaLeche group meetings in Western Massachusetts in the past twenty years. Each mother is encouraged to bring her wallet stuffed with pictures of her children.

For further information, contact Lavada Wright, 16 Hanward Hill, East Longmeadow, or Linda Desmarais, 151 Longwood Drive, Chicopee.

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Fertilizer-Peat Moss-Cedar Bark
Lawn Seed-Rakes-Shovels, Etc.
Lime-Sunflower Seed-Hay-Grain

Straw-Cow Manure-Dog Food
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For Senior Citizens...

New Beginnings

By Rita White

Have you gotten to that point in life where you look at yourself and your life and say "what am I doing here?" You get very critical and say, what a waste, what have I accomplished, I've never done anything great, never discovered some wonderful thing for the world. We all have those thoughts. When you do have a day that is full of self-doubt you should remember two things:

First, you are here to ask those questions, which means that somehow or other you have found a way to deal with life on a day to day basis, a way to be a survivor. That in itself is an accomplishment. Life is a constant challenge to us and if we can meet that challenge, we have nothing to feel inadequate about.

The second thing to remember is that we are not always aware of some of our accomplishments. For encouragement, a pat on the back, a smile may have been the moment in that person's life when that very word or smile was an important turning point for them. They may not even have realized it themselves.

Those are the things we will never know for certain. Then we must realize that we are all links in a chain. We all live on in part in the generations that follow us. We may never live to see a future descendant accomplish great things, but in our own way, we have contributed to it by being a part of their heritage. So, whether or not we have visible signs of accomplishment, we are all achievers of a sort.

Toni Veranesi has achieved 83 years of life. Her birthday was celebrated at the Senior Center complete with cake, song and the best of wishes from all her friends. Toni came to Agawam from Great Barrington 8 years ago. She has two boys and a girl. Happy birthday Toni.

A trip to Boston for the flower show was a great success, thanks to Vi Smith. The flower show was of course beautiful and everyone enjoyed the delicious lunch at Anthony's Pier IV restaurant. Then it was on to shopping at Spag's which is always fun. The terrific bus driver even gave us a tour of Boston before the flower show.

On Sunday evening, March 29th at 7 p.m., there will be a free pastel painting demonstration at the Senior Center, given by noted artist William Schultz. The public is invited to attend.

The Agawam Women's Club wishes to extend an invitation to the Senior Ladies to attend a Friendship Tea to be held on Tuesday, April 7th at 1:30 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House.

Seasons come, seasons go.
Some bring wind and rain and snow.
Others bring roses and warm sunshine.
Whatever the season, life is still fine. Rita White

BINGO

NEW FORMAT!

ALL GAMES \$50.00
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SPECIAL

Prizes Over \$2000.00

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"On The Clothesline"



By Penny Stone

Local servicemen make the news this week...Private First Class EDWARD J. MANNING, son of MR. & MRS. EDWARD J. MANNING of 62 Stewart Lane, is employed by the United States Marine Corps in the field of communications at the Marine Corps Air Station in Cherry Point, North Carolina.

Prior to enlisting in the Marines for four years, Edward graduated from Agawam High School in 1980. He plans to be home on leave this July when his grandparents, VICTORIA SWIATEK of Chicopee nad ROSE MANNING of West Springfield, will be anxious to see him again.

Edward is presently stationed at 29 Palm, California, doing temporary duty. He recently earned the praise of his superiors - "best wire man" -and, therefore, earned four days leave for the beginning of April. According to his mother, "He has matured tremendously. He's become quite a man!" As for basic training, she adds, "It was rough...but very good for him. And he's very proud to be a Marine. We're very proud of him, too."

First Lieutenant THOMAS J. ACQUARO, son of MR. & MRS. MICHAEL ACQUARO of 32 Rhodes Avenue, has recently been selected to participate in the Army's Sports Clinic Program. Lt. Acquaro will visit high schools throughout the Southeast and conduct soccer clinics for high school students. This program is one of many Army clinic programs which strive to enlighten the civilian community about sports in the Armed Forces.

Lt. Acquaro is assigned to Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and is the company commander for A Company, USA Reception Station. He is active with the Youth Soccer Program at Fort Jackson and is co-captain of the Fort Jackson Post soccer team. Recent "performance and potential evaluations" have indicated that he is a top-notch officer: "His concerned leadership techniques have consistently achieved outstanding results...He is a constant source of good ideas, a trusted advisor on major problems, and is extremely effective communicating both orally and in writing."

Lt. Acquaro is a 1972 graduate of Agawam High and a 1979 graduate of Westfield State College. Agawam can be very proud of her military sons.

Perhaps another "military son" on the way up, 9 lb., 1 oz. DAVID STROLE was born on February 27th, the first child of SUZANNE & DAVID STROLE of 76 Forest Road, Agawam. Actually, he's more apt to be a football player as his dad played for Agawam High back in the mid-sixties. "He has the hands for it, too," adds his father.

Grandparents include EMILE & VIRGINIA GRENIER of 1083 River Road, Agawam, and ARTHUR & NANCY STROLE of Brunswick, Georgia, who have tentative plans to see their new grandchild soon. David's great-grandmother, MARY GRENIER, resides at Agawam's Heritage Hall. Welcome to the world, Dave!

Another baby born here recently was SARAH ELIZABETH, a 6 lb., 12 oz. beauty born to DOLORES & EDWARD S. NACEWICZ, JR. of 21 Warren Street, Agawam. Arriving on February 23rd - on her due date - Sarah is the third daughter of the couple. According to Mom, sisters KIMMEL, age 6, and SHANNA, aged 3, actually named Sarah.

Sarah's happy grandparents are MR. & MRS. EDWARD NACEWICZ of 66 Norman Terrace, Feeding Hills, and MR. & MRS. RENO CASAGRANDE of Ludlow. Dad's reportedly pretty happy with his little harem, too. (Wait 'til they get older!)

Anybody have some good recipes (?) for acorns? How about a useful craft idea using acorns? Energy-saving, acorn-burning stove? Well, two Granger School students, TONY BRACCHI & BRIAN HOLLISTER, are working their way into the Guinness Book of World Records. Doing what, you ask? Why collecting the most acorns, of course! So far the boys have gathered a whopping 1,130 little oak nuts and they've only begun...

"Meantime, what do we do with all these acorns?" queries Tony's Mom. I suggested making acorn placemats or covering the back door with them. Maybe they'd make a good fuel source. Have patience, Mom. This may be a CORNERstone in your son's life. And whenever he says to you, "Mommy, what am I going to do, I'm bored," you can point him in the direction of the nearest undiscovered forest and put him to work...Ah, fulfillment!

Call Penny at home (786-9144) or drop her a note at 72 Federal Street with any interesting events happening in your life - recent promotions, special honors, new baby, funny incident.



Edward J. Manning



Thomas J. Acquaro

Channel 57 Auction Now Underway

Phil and June Cloutier, Lynne Dobise, and Penny Lizotte have been busy canvassing Agawam businesses for donations for Channel 57's Great Spring Auction scheduled to take place April 3-11 beginning each evening at 6 p.m. on that television station.

Every effort is being made this year to increase the number of Agawam businesses making donations, but private individuals may donate as well.

Channel 57 is a non-profit, public television station which is commercial free. It must raise money to cover all its operating expenses and this is primarily accomplished through this auction along with other projects.

Those donations valued at \$50 or more receive on-air exposure at least twice and are a good way for businesses to promote their products or services. Approximately 133,000 viewers are expected to watch the auction with many bidding on the merchandise or services.

Donations valued at \$600 or more comprise the "Specials Board." These donations receive more on-air exposure for their donations. New to the auction this year is the 57 Club, in which any donation relating to the number 57 is highlighted when presented on the air.

Also new this year is the Express Bid Kit. For a donation of \$3 per kit, each donor receives his own identification number and when bidding on an item, the bidder will simply have to give his express bid identification number instead of name, address etc. to save time. Express bid kits can be obtained by contacting Phil or June Cloutier at 786-2913 or by calling Channel 57 at 781-2801 weekdays from 9 to 5.

Those who wish to donate may contact the Cloutiers or Lynn Dobise at 786-6235 or Penny Lizotte at 786-6240. Anyone who wishes to volunteer for any of the numerous tasks for the auction may contact Channel 57 at 781-2801 and ask for the auction office.

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Leonard House Tag Sale Planned

The trustees of the Captain Charles Leonard House are sponsoring a Tag Sale on April 4th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. rain or shine. It will take place in the Leonard House.

Many items are still needed, and residents are asked to search their cellars and attics for "gems" they may wish to donate. Articles may be left at the house any time before Friday, April 3rd, or if the item is too bulky to transport yourself, simply call the house for arrangements to be made to have it picked up.

The cost of maintaining this beautiful historical residence is increasing each year, and at present, some repairs and replacements are badly needed. It is hoped that the Tag Sale will be a big success to provide much of the additional revenue needed to accomplish what the trustees see as necessary.

UNICO To Sponsor Macaroni Dinner

The husband-and-wife combination chairpersons of the UNICO macaroni and meatball dinner for this year are Thomas and Laura Coppola, who are in charge of the event to be held on April 5th at Agawam High School from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Tickets for adults are \$3.25 and for children, \$1.75. They may be obtained from Coppola, from UNICO members, or at the door. Proceeds will benefit mental health, retarded children, scholarships and community charities.

Make Your Own Raffia Doll

Classes Starting March 31st

Tuesday Mornings 9:30

Wednesday Evenings 7:00

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Serving Daily 4-10 P.M.
Closed Monday
Ample Parking



Alan H. Brooks

Alan H. Brooks, 48, of 32 Claus Anderson Road, Southwick, died Saturday, March 21st, in Baystate Medical Center, Wesson Unit.

Born in St. Albans, Vermont, he had been an Agawam resident for 15 years prior to moving to Southwick 20 years ago. He was a graduate of Agawam High School, an Army veteran of the Korean War, a self-employed contractor, and member of the Agawam Athletic Association.

He leaves his wife, Peggy (Biagetti); a son, Alan, and daughter, Linda, both at home; his mother Dorothy Brooks of Agawam; three brothers, Robert of Southwick, Irving of Agawam, and Gerald of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; two sisters, Mary Pond of Blue Hills, Maine, and Betty Brooks of Florida, and several nephews and nieces.

Colonial Funeral Chapel of Agawam was in charge of services with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Anthony N. Tangredi

Anthony N. Tangredi, 64, of 202 So. Longyard Road, Southwick, died Tuesday, March 17, 1981, in Providence Hospital.

Born in Springfield, he had lived in Agawam 25 years prior to moving to Southwick six years ago. A Navy veteran of World War II, he was a supervisor for National Aerospace Co., Agawam, for 27 years before retiring.

He leaves his widow, Ann (Curto), two daughters, Ann Wilson of Southwick and Susan Pelley of Feeding Hills; a brother Dominick of Agawam; three sisters, Jennie Carenza of Springfield, Theresa Councilman of Montague, Ma., and Ann Weidbuch of Chicago, and five grandchildren and several nephews and nieces.

Colonial Funeral Chapel, Agawam, was in charge of services with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery, Springfield.

St. Theresa's Hosts Famous Statue

The world famous International Pilgrim Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be at St. Theresa's Church in Agawam for a five-hour period from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, April 10th.

The celebration will begin with a mass at 9 a.m. by Father Robert Choquette and end with benediction at 2 p.m. The rosary will be recited in full as well as other Marian devotions during this time.

All who wish to participate in these ceremonies to honor Mary are encouraged to attend.

Nocturnal Adoration Soc. Plans Monthly Meeting

The Nocturnal Adoration Society of Agawam and West Springfield will hold its scheduled monthly meeting at Immaculate Conception Church, 475 Main Street, West Springfield, beginning on Friday, April 3 at 9 p.m. and ending on Saturday, April 4, at 6 a.m.

Father Timothy J. Hallahan, pastor of Immaculate Conception, will open with the benediction.

A special meeting of all parish chairmen, leaders and assistant leaders will be held at St. Theresa's Church, Agawam, on Tuesday, April 7th at 7:30 p.m.

Congregational Church Schedules Events

The Agawam Congregational Church at 745 Main Street will present a Cabaret Night on Wednesday, April 1st at 8 p.m. A one-act comedy entitled "The Real Inspector Hound" will be presented and refreshments will be served.

On Friday, April 3rd, the Ladies Aid Society of the church will hold a Rummage Sale at the church from 10-2 and from 6-8 o'clock.

From The Pulpit

By Fr. Robert Choquette
St. Theresa's Church

The first Catholic Church in Agawam was established by a French Canadian priest by the name of Father Louis Guillaume J. Gagnier in the year 1873. The name of this church bore his middle name, St. Guillaume, or St. William's Church, and was built on the corner of Church and Bridge Streets.

In 1883, St. William's Parish had its first residential pastor by the name of Fr. Raymond E. Pelletier. Since that time about 20 more pastors have led this people of God in their spiritual and, at times, material needs.

In its early life, St. William's operated a four-room parochial school in a building at the rear of the church and continued it until 1923 when the church and school buildings were burned. At one time, St. William's had two missions: one in West Springfield and one in Longmeadow.

A new brick church was built at the corner of High and Bridge Streets in North Agawam in 1927 during the pastorate of Father Alfred Potvin. At that time, the name of the church or parish was changed from St. William's to St. Theresa of the Infant Jesus, or, as it is more commonly called, St. Theresa's Parish.

A rectory was constructed adjoining the church and later on another residential house was purchased as a school and social center. After the fire, the old St. William's Church was converted to a parish hall. Several years ago, this building was sold and is presently owned by the Moose Club.

At one time, St. Theresa's served the needs of a predominantly Franco-American or French-speaking population. With the diminished use and knowledge of French in the liturgy of the mass and other sacraments, as well as the intermarriage of various ethnic backgrounds, the parish population is now made up of all nationalities.

Father Paul J. Bernard served the needs of the parish as its pastor from 1966-1978. In February, 1978, Father Robert Choquette assumed the pastorate, his first.

St. Theresa's sponsors both a cub scout pack (76) and boy scout troop which meets under the leadership of David Raiche every Friday evening at the parish center at the corner of Cooley and Bridge Streets from 7 to 9 p.m.

The Webelos Den of Pack 76 meets at the same place each Tuesday evening from 6:30 till 7:30 under the leadership of Paul Bourdeau and Gerry Landry. There is a monthly pack meeting on the third Wednesday of each month from 6:45 till about 8:30. Roger Rousseau is cubmaster and Nancy Hallbauer is its committee chairperson. There are three other dens.

The parish also has a junior choir for children under the direction of Jackie Johnson and a senior choir under the direction of Charlotte Haynes.

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes are held on Monday afternoons for grade school and on Monday evenings for grades 6 and up. Mrs. Edythe Coughlin represents the program on the Deanery Board and Phillippe Raiche is in charge of the teachers' program.

A Mr. and Mrs. Club (couple's club) was recently initiated in the parish to foster closer relationships among the couples and to deepen the bonds of this small, but growing parish community. This parish community covers all of Agawam, Feeding Hills, and parts of West Springfield. There are also a few families in the Westfield and Granville areas.

Any boy 8 to 10½ wishing to join the Cub Scout Pack 76 may do so by calling Father Bob at the rectory (786-4451) or Nancy Hallbauer at 786-2309. The same goes for any boy 10½ or older wishing to join the boy scout troop or he and his parents may drop in at the parish center one Friday evening.

Attend Service This Week



We will be running this column weekly to inform you of the hours of services at your house of worship. Activities at your parish hall and other items of interest concerning parish doings may be submitted for publication in our social pages. We encourage parishes to appoint a person to be responsible for publicity. This information is furnished as a public service.

AGAWAM BAPTIST CHURCH

760 Main Street, Agawam
786-7300

Rev. Donald Morris

Sundays: Worship 9:30 a.m.; Jr. Church, 10:00; Church School Classes, 10:30; Jr. High BYF, 7:00 p.m.; Sr. High BYF, Times To Be Announced.

AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

745 Main Street, Agawam
786-7111

Rev. Floyd Bryan

Rev. Kurt Herber

Sundays: Worship 10:30 a.m.; Church School (crib-6th grade) 10:30, (7th-12th grades) 9:15; Jr. Pilgrim Fellowship, 5:30 p.m.; Sr. Pilgrim Fellowship, 6 p.m.

Wednesday evenings: Prayer group meetings 7:30

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

459 Mill Street, Agawam
786-4174 (Church) 786-5278 (Parsonage)

Rev. Paul Woodbury, Jr.

Sunday: Service 9:30 a.m.; Church School, 9:30 a.m.

FEEDING HILLS BIBLE CHURCH

18 So. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills

786-1681

Rev. Richard Hoff

Sunday: Morning Service 10:30; Evening Service 7:00; Church School, 10:30

Wednesday evening: Prayer group meetings 7:00

FEEDING HILLS CONG. CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

21 No. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills

786-5061

Rev. Wilbur Sadleir

Sunday: Service 10:00 a.m.; Church School 10 a.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH (Roman Catholic)

1059 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills

786-8200

Fr. Joseph Flood

Fr. Paul Burns

Fr. Richard Ahern

Masses: Saturdays 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.; Sundays 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH (Rom.Cath.)

Maple Street, Agawam

786-3724

Fr. Joseph Fellin

Masses: Saturdays 4:00 and 6:30 p.m.; Sundays 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

522 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills

786-9545

Rev. Bruce Benshoff

Sundays: Services 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Church School and nursery at 10:00

Bible Study Group: Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Morning Study Group: Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH (Rom.Cath.)

823 Main Street, Agawam

786-8105

Fr. Karl Huller

Fr. Philip Gallerani

Masses: Saturday 4:00 and 6:15 p.m.; Sunday 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:30, 11:45 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.

ST. THERESA OF INFANT JESUS CHURCH (Rom.Cath.)

74 Bridge Street, Agawam

786-4451

Fr. Robert Choquette

Masses: Saturday 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

152 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills

786-2445

Rev. Frank E. Dunn

Sunday services, 10 a.m.; Sunday School 10 a.m.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

March 28th
Craft Fair

Ag. Cong. Church
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

April 4th
Tag Sale
Leonard House
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

April 5th
Macaroni Dinner
UNICO

High School
12:30 - 5:30 p.m.

April 1st
F.H. Women's Club
Grange Hall
8 p.m.

April 3
Smog/50's Dance
Baseball Boosters
Polish Club
7 p.m.



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745 COOPER STREET, AGAWAM, MA.

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Welcome Wagon

Penny Stone

786-9144 or 781-1480

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EDITORIAL



FROM THE THIRD

By Rep Edward W. Connelly

Someone once said, "All I know is what I read in the papers." Well, this week I read that at the request of many local officials throughout the state, preliminary "cherry sheet" figures were released at an early date to assist those local officials in preparing budgets now decimated by Proposition 2 1/2.

The issuance of the preliminary reports through the press caused shock waves throughout the Commonwealth. Local aid assistance, based on the Governor's budget, look woefully inadequate - as it should because the Governor's budget increases local aid by only \$26 million over last year's figures.

The preliminary figures also show county assessments on cities and towns to be appreciably higher than last year.

Well, without reading the papers, I know that the Governor's budget, which will not be debated until late April, will be subject to change and undoubtedly will contain a much greater amount of local aid.

The county budget, submitted by the commissioners, was lower in total than last year's budget. When this unit is debated it will assuredly result in lower county assessments.

I think I shall not read the headlines for the rest of this week and concentrate only on the sports section and the comic strips.

LEGAL NOTICE ZONE CHANGE HEARING TOWN OF AGAWAM IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Agawam as follows:

The zoning ordinance passed and approved on December 21, 1972 to take effect on January 1, 1973, entitled "Zoning" is hereby amended by changing from Agricultural and Residence A-2 to Residence A-3 on the following real estate situated at the corner of Suffield and South Streets in Agawam, Hampden County, Massachusetts, described as follows:

PARCEL NO. 1

Beginning at a point set in the south side of South Street, distance of 400 ft. Easterly from Suffield Street and running thence S 79° 18' 10" E. along the south side of South Street a distance of 1323.87 feet to land of Rocco and Christina Stellato; thence turning and running along last named land S. 29° 32' 38" W. a distance of 1874.34' to land of Tennessee Gas Transmission Company; thence turning and running along last named land the following courses N 62° 28' 31" W. a distance of 440.31 feet, N. 76° 51' 0" W 69.52 feet. S 8° 46' 29" W a distance of 544.88 ft. and S 74° 59' 59" W a distance of 180.50 feet to the East side of a 300' wide Western Mass. Electric Company Right of Way, thence turning and running along said east side of Western Mass. Electric Company Right of Way N 18° 19' 21" W a distance of 1638.69 feet to an angle point, thence N 54° 00' 21" W a distance of 507.76 feet to other land of Gasland, Inc., thence turning and running S 79° 18' 10" E along last named land 252.95 feet, thence continuing N 14° 20' 14" E a distance of 700 feet to the place of beginning. Containing 55.70 acres of land.

Excepting from the above described premises the following land and containing approximately 20 acres more or less.

Beginning at a point marking the Northeast corner of Parcel 1, thence in a generally westerly direction along the south side of South Street 1323.87 feet to a point which marks the Northwest corner of said Parcel 1; thence turning and running in a generally southerly direction 200 feet more or less, to the northerly edge of Worthington Brook; thence turning and running in an easterly and Southeasterly direction along the said Northerly edge of said Worthington Brook approximately 1500 feet, more or less, to the West side of land of said Rocco and Christina Stellato; thence turning and running in a generally Northerly direction along last named land of said Stellato a distance of approximately 750 feet, more or less, to said Southerly side of South Street and the point of beginning.

PARCEL NO. 2

Beginning at a point set in the easterly side of Suffield Street at land of Tennessee Gas Transmission Company and running thence S 77° 40' 31" E along last named land 640.24' to a point; thence continuing along last named land the following courses: S 77° 52' 31" E a distance of 687.21 feet N 74° 59' 59" E a distance of 46.76' to the westerly side of a 300 foot wide Western Mass Electric Co. Right of Way thence turning and running along said Westerly side of Right of Way N 18° 19' 21" W a distance of 1524.71 feet to an angle point in said Right of Way; thence N 54° 00' 21" W a distance of 463.00 feet to a point set in the easterly side of Suffield Street, thence running along said easterly side of Suffield Street S 18° 40' 12" W a distance of 1210.30 feet to an angle point, thence continuing S 18° 24' 29"; W a distance of 320.34 feet to the place of beginning. Containing 28.18 acres of land.

An ordinance now before the Town Council.

The Agawam Town Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 21, 1981, at 8:00 p.m. in the Agawam Public Library Community Room, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, Ma. on the above petitioned zone change of Frank J. Solitario, 65 Pleasant Valley Road, Feeding Hills, Hampden County, Massachusetts.

Edward A. Caba, Town & Council Clerk
Published: March 26, 1981

Letters to the Editor

AA/N Bridal Section Praised

Dear Mr. Hayes, Joanne Brown, & Diana Willard
Congratulations to one and all on the "Brides' Guide." It is absolutely excellent and far more informative than others recently published. In fact, I will retain it for future reference in my own clothing design business.

As former Fashion Director of Steigers, I'm certain you created a viable new direction in fashion advertising and sales.

Susan Leary
Parrot Designs Inc.
875 River Road
Agawam

Support For Athletics

To The Editor:

My personal feelings on this (whether athletics are necessary) is that athletics are co-curricular and not extra-curricular. Many of our programs are geared for our "special" or "exceptional" student. Athletics is that part of the program geared to the "exceptional" student of sport skill.

This is the place where they are challenged and forced to cope in a setting which can never be duplicated in a closed, static classroom. Denying the athlete this would be taking away part of their educational benefits that could not be replaced.

I feel a fair share of cuts must be born by the athletic program as well, but only in the context of the total program. Athletics should not be totally excluded either financially or program-wise and should not be asked to shoulder an unfair share of the burden.

The athletic program should not be made to "sink or swim" on a means where it must generate monies to survive. Athletics is a part of the total educational process and, therefore, must be considered in that light, and not as an appendage to the existing program of the school.

Arthur J. Serra
201 Pineview Circle

Moratorium Plans Criticized

To The Editor:

What the devil is wrong with the leadership in this community? Just a short time ago they pumped us up by floating a 1.3 million dollar bond to purchase the airport property to develop an industrial park. While Wang Industries was shopping in Western Massachusetts for a place to locate a new plant, the President of the Council calls for a moratorium on building in our town. Although Mr. Fieldstad later modified his statement to residential building, how receptive do you think Wang or any other company would be to the airport site if we told them that, "You can build your plant, but your executives and other key employees must relocate in other communities. We have a moratorium on residential development in Agawam." If this attitude is allowed to prevail, we might as well call the airport site "Forest Lawn East."

This grandstanding by Mr. Fieldstad is unforgivable and borders on hypocrisy. After five years or more on the Planning Board, he knows that once a developer's bond is released the town is responsible thereafter. A developer does not come into a town and just begin building. They must submit a plan to the Planning Board. The Planning Board, after consultation with the Building Department, Engineering, Health, and other departments, imposes restrictions on the developer and, if acceptable, the developer posts a bond. At this point, a building permit must be issued; it cannot be denied.

The town, meaning the Building, Engineering, and Health Departments, and, at times, the Conservation Commission and especially the Planning Board, must be satisfied that all terms of the agreement have been met before the developer's bond is released. As representatives of the town, they all share in this responsibility.

Mr. Fieldstad knows this, but he is trying to defuse the groundswell that is developing by calling for a moratorium on residential building. He knows that we, the town, went through this exercise when the influx of apartments began and more recently when the Pheasant Hill development was proposed.

The best the council could do for the opponents of the Pheasant Hill development was to pass a resolve that the council was against it. Mr. Fieldstad was a member of that council and the building went on. Shame on him.

Sincerely,
D.J. Desmond
Member, Citizens For Good Government

LEGAL NOTICES ACCEPTED

No New Taxes - Connelly

To The Editor:

We positively do not and will not endorse any proposal which requires an additional increase of percentage to an existing tax or a new tax, in order to provide revenue for local aid, so long as the ability to provide \$349 million to local aid exists.

The Connelly-Mullins bill H 532 contains legislative language which pertains solely to diversion of 100 percent of the retail sales tax to the local aid fund. Presently, only 40 percent of sales tax revenue goes to local aid, the remaining 60 percent to the General Fund.

When we testified before the Committee on Taxation in Boston on Thursday last, we outlined the events which have taken us to the 40 percent diversion to local aid, and stressed the legislative intent in 1966 which caused the voters of Mass. to adopt a sales tax by a 3 to 1 vote. We held that the legislative intent has been violated.

In response to questioning by the Committee, we pointed out that the Governor's budget, now before House Ways and Means, was thoroughly reviewed after its presentation. We offered a potential savings of \$48 millions by ending the "Prior Appropriation Continued" otherwise known as PAC's. On June 30 of each fiscal year, all unexpended funds in cities and towns must be transferred to the city or town treasury. That money then becomes "free cash" to be used for emergency fund, abatements, and for reduction of the ensuing years tax rate. Not so with the Commonwealth.

We offered potential savings of \$40 million asked for jobs authorized, but not filled. A policy of attrition is a necessity for leaner government.

We offered potential savings of \$22 million asked for new positions, for we should be cognizant of Executive Order 80-2 which was supposed to freeze all hirings except proven emergency.

We offered potential savings of many millions more by reducing administrative dollars by 15 percent, after ascertaining that such cuts would not affect services.

Please bear in mind also that normal fiscal growth in Massachusetts approximates \$350 million annually and even a level funded budget could provide the wherewithal of 2 1/2.

It must be fully understood that the Connelly-Mullins bill was written in May of 1980, long before Proposition 2 1/2 became a fact of life. A concern that Prop. 2 1/2 should stand or fall on its own merits is not a valid concern when the additional revenue available to cities and towns is rightfully theirs.

Sincerely,
Edward W. Connelly R-Agawam
William D. Mullins D-Ludlow

Tax Topics

By Abbett Tax Service

Each year an increasing number of real estate sales are being designed to qualify as tax free exchanges. The inflated value of a parcel of real estate over its purchase price causes a high gain on the sale of that property. The income taxes, otherwise payable on a sale of real estate, can be deferred by arranging a tax free exchange.

It is unlikely that you will find a person with acceptable property to trade you when you are ready to sell. However, you can arrange for your buyer to acquire satisfactory replacement property which he then trades you for your real estate. This latter approach is referred to as the three-way exchange and should be considered by anyone intending to sell property and buy replacement property.

There are four categories of real estate by use.

- 1) Investment property.
- 2) Property held for productive use in a trade or business.
- 3) Taxpayer's primary residence.
- 4) Inventory held primarily for sale.

Of these four categories of real estate, the first two qualify for tax free exchange under Internal Revenue Code, Section 1031. I normally wouldn't mention code sections except that "1031 Exchange" is becoming a household word.

There is a common misunderstanding that you can sell "investment" or "productive use" property and replace it with a given time limit to eliminate the income tax. Your primary residence is the only property which can be sold and replaced within a given time limit to avoid the income tax. If you accept cash or a contract on the sale of commercial real estate, you will pay the income taxes on that transaction even if you buy replacement property the same day.

Since inflation is causing most taxpayers to be in a higher tax bracket, the use of the tax free exchange can save you thousands of dollars in income taxes.

SCHOOL NEWS

Construction Knowledge Put On Display

By Joanne Brown

Students in Don Dorazio's structures class at Agawam High learn useful, practical techniques for building houses. Dorazio emphasizes teaching his students basic knowledge of the construction business from surveying land to applying methods in constructing scale model homes.

"When they finish this course, my students aren't able to go out and build a house, but they do have a solid working knowledge of terms and concepts," Dorazio explains.

This knowledge was recently put to the test as six students combined efforts to build two scale model homes displayed at last week's Home Show in West Springfield.

Invited to participate in the show by the Builders Association of Greater Springfield, the Agawam students entered two 1-inch scale models as separate displays, not as part of the contest annually sponsored for high school students. Dorazio noted that contest entries from other area schools were on a 1/2-inch scale and much less elaborate than his students' models.

One model featured a log cabin built to plan specifications obtained from Bay State Log Homes. Steve Lucia, Bill Egan, and Bill Yagmin worked under Dorazio's direction to create this 35"X55" structure. They began right from designing their own log

"shaper" to make their own miniature logs which were six inches thick and eight inches wide.

The second model was a ranch-style house with breezeway and two-car garage constructed by students Mike Carr, John Kunasek, and Richard Parent. This design features a truss roof, for which students built their own trusses, roofing shingles, and board and batten siding.

Each of the models was finished inside with fireplace, stairs, carpeting, electrified lighting fixtures, and doors and windows that open and shut. Parts of the model were left cut away so viewers could observe construction methods.

These projects involved many hours outside of class time to complete, and Dorazio commended his students for their enthusiasm and willingness to put in the necessary time and effort. The students also alternated in manning the exhibit at the Home Show to answer visitors' questions and show their expertise.

A frequent statement heard within the last few years is that the construction business is hurting for various financial reasons, but with students like these acquiring such sound knowledge of building techniques, not many can dispute the state of the industry in that area at least.

Cathedral Class of '51 Plans 30th Year Reunion

Cathedral High School, Springfield, Class of 1951 will hold its 30th year reunion this fall. For further information, contact Charles Duclos at 786-2694 or write to him at 260 Walnut Street, Agawam, Ma. 01001.

CPR Class To Be Offered

A CPR class will be offered as a community service beginning on Tuesday, March 31st and running for three consecutive Tuesdays from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Junior High School on Springfield Street. Registration may be completed at the first class meeting on March 31. Contact Charlotte Serra at 786-3243 for more information.

Baseball Booster Club To Sponsor 50's Dance

The Agawam High School Baseball Booster Club will sponsor its first Smorgasbord-Fifties Dance on Friday, April 3rd at the Polish American Club on Southwick Street in Feeding Hills. The meal will begin at 7 p.m. followed by dancing to oldies music from 8 till 1 a.m. Jay Kubik, a local radio D.J., will be the host for the evening.

The purpose of this project is to offset the transportation cost of bussing team members to and from area games.

Tickets are \$10 per person and may be purchased by contacting Maureen Lyne at 786-7690 or Charlotte Venturini at 786-8160.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

Mon., March 30: Cheese pizza, tossed garden salad w/dressing, chilled mixed fruit cup, milk

Tues., March 31: Oven roast turkey & gravy, whipped potatoes, buttered peas & carrots, wheat bread & butter, chocolate cake w/icing, milk

Wed., April 1: Apple juice, toasted bologna & cheese sandwich in roll, buttered broccoli cuts, vanilla pudding w/topping, milk

Thurs., April 2: Baked hamburger & macaroni, creamy cabbage & carrot salad, Italian bread & butter, petite banana, milk

Fri., April 3: 1/2 fluffernutter, 1/2 tuna salad sandwich, buttered niblet corn, applesauce, white cake w/hot fudge sauce, milk

Writing 'Turn-On' In Use In Agawam

Last year, a state-wide assessment of elementary school children stated that their language arts and writing skills needed immediate improvement. This assessment prompted Danahy School principal Barbara Kimball and Granger School teachers Ann Bradford and Georgene Knight to work with the Wide Horizons Project this year to create a unique curriculum unit to "turn on" fourth and fifth grade students to writing.

Their method - use art and nature to spark students' interest and skill development in writing. Their curriculum unit is named "Fine Arts/Language Arts" (FALA for short); it includes two components: "The King's Fountain," taught in the Danahy and Granger fourth and fifth grades, and "Children and Nature," now being used by Granger fourth graders.

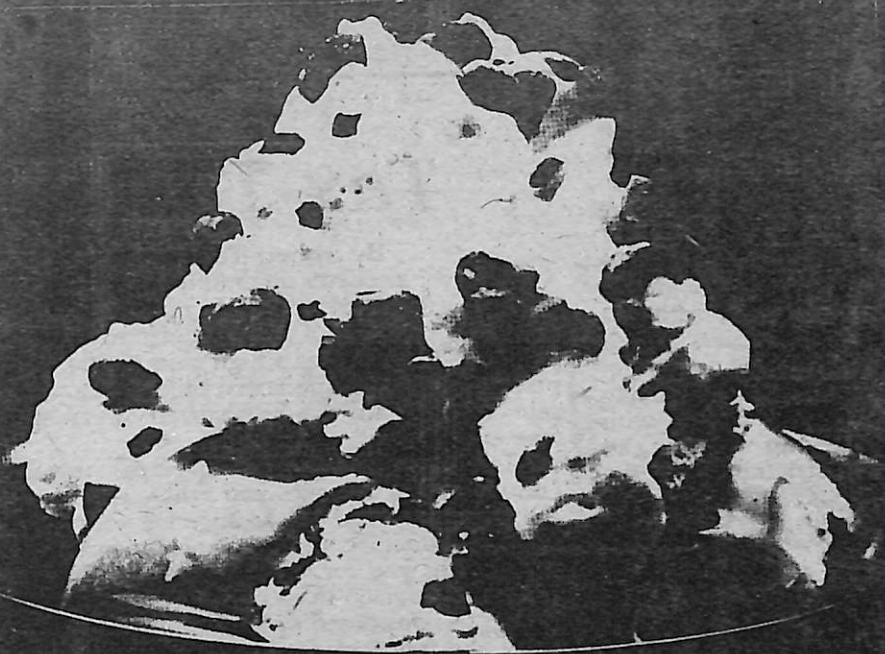
"The King's Fountain" centers around a study of the book of the same name by Lloyd Alexander and Ezra Jack Keats. This book, which is written for primary readers, was deliberately chosen so that the students will not merely read it for pleasure, but will also examine how its story is structured and how its vocabulary and illustrations highlight the story's theme.

After analyzing the book, the students participate in several art activities which spur their own vocabulary development. For example, the students create a frieze of their bodies to illustrate a word such as power or joy, and then develop lists of synonyms and antonyms for the word. The culminating activity of the compoinent will be a ten-week program with Jane Murphy, a writer-in-residence, to help students master the process of writing and create their own "books."

"Children and Nature" sparks students' writing through a study of nature art and literature. Ann Bradford, who created this component, believes that "once a student gains an appreciation of what is beautiful in nature, he can more easily express what is beautiful within himself." For example, students study Robert Frost's poem "Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening," illustrate lines from the poem, and then write about the feelings of the poem's characters. In the spring, the students will observe one-foot plots in their backyards for two weeks and write about the daily changes they see.

Will FALA help improve language arts skills among the students who use the kit? Plans for evaluating Wide Horizons include tests to measure the growth in writing skills of FALA students. If the tests show improvement in these skills, Agawam elementary students in future years will be looking at art and nature as a "turn on" to writing.

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This is the sundae you'll stick with. It's Friendly Vanilla Ice Cream with caramel poured all over, topped with whipped topping and chopped almonds. Enjoy. **\$1.30**

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786-4466**



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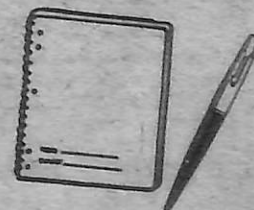
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Guidance Bulletin Board

By Paul Cavallo
Chairman,
Guidance Dept.

Attention parents of Juniors and Sophomores:

The 1981 annual College Fair will be held at the Springfield Civic Center on Monday and Tuesday, March 30 and 31. The Guidance Department at Agawam High encourages students and parents to attend the evening session on Monday from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Over 200 colleges and schools will be present and counseling services will be available regarding financial aid and testing. There is no charge to attend the fair.

If students wish to attend either day session (9:30-2:00) they must follow the regular procedure for being excused from school by properly notifying the school's main office. Students must provide their own transportation.

Summer Jobs for Students 14-21 Years Of Age

The applications for the '80-'81 CETA Summer Youth Employment Program are available in the guidance office at Agawam High, Jr. High, and Middle School along with SPAC Center on Springfield Street. High school dropouts, college students, and handicapped students are encouraged to apply. Return your application to the location from which you obtained it.

Awards: Thomas Bennett: a junior at the high school, has been selected as Agawam High's nominee for the Dartmouth Club's annual book award for the outstanding junior. Tom, along with his parents, will be honored at a dinner at Storowton Barn in late April. Congratulations, Tom.

Announcements: On April 2nd, nine female juniors will attend a pre-college day at Smith College, which will include a campus tour, an undergraduate panel discussion, and lunch in campus houses. The nine girls attending are Cheryl DeSpirt, Anna Greguoli, Sue Douglass, Sue Santaniello, Gina Ferraro, Martha Leary, and Cheryl Santagate.

Scholarships: Western Mass. Home Economics Association - open to a high school senior who has been accepted at an accredited college for study in the Home Ec. field.

Latest College Acceptances

Shirley Donatini, Carmela Marzano, Yvette Belisle, Donna Ouellette, Kim Harlow, Lisa Gilbert, Laura Lottermoser, Charles Granger, Michelle George, Mark Ceccarini, and Ann Abbey: Holyoke Community College

John Kunasek, James Shea, Jon Gendron, Dario Mercadante, and Michael Faulkner: Western New England College

Debra Macey, Laura Gendron, John Jury, and David Hanson: UMass.; Patricia Cavallo, Kim Noack, and Beth Golemo: Fitchburg State; Steve Tetreault, Jerry Graziano, Maryann Miranda, Vitalis Von Hollander, and Tony Sgueglia: STCC

David Ritter, AIC; Donald Gallerani, St. Leo College, Nasson, Jacksonville U., Husson; Ann-Taupier, Worcester State; Rosemary DeStefano, David Allen: Boston U.; Cynthia Carpenter, North Adams State; Marjorie Dickman, U. of S. Florida, Bridgewater State, Framingham State;

Chris Liberatore, Beth Golemo, Laurel Masi: Framingham State; Diane Gamelli, Kim Fulvi, Lisa Gilbert, Laura Lottermoser, Laurel Masi: Westfield State; Tom Sibilia: UConn; Paulette Girard: Mass. College of Pharmacy; Sandra Fleming: Western Mass. Hospital School of Practical Nurses; and Thomas Kirk: N.H. Vocational-Technical College at Laconia.

Seniors Leaving Hoop Squad



Graduating Seniors from the high school hoop squad recently honored by the Basketball Parents are from left, varsity coach Lou Conte, Chip Granger, Dave Lyne, Nate Harriman and Dean Molta. Each of the four seniors saw plenty of floor time during the winter months and made important contributions to the 'Brownie' effort. Photo by Jack Devine.

Music Festivals Scheduled

The tenth annual String Jamboree for music students will take place on Saturday, March 28th from 9 to 3 o'clock at Bellamy Middle School, Chicopee. An anticipated 200 string players from throughout Western Massachusetts will rehearse in orchestras throughout the day and then perform a concert for parents and friends at 2:30 in the school auditorium.

A special pre-jamboree rehearsal for participants in grades 5 and 6 was held at the Agawam Middle School last week. Those students who will participate at the jamboree are as follows: Fifth Graders: Melissa Bowden from Granger, Denise Garrett, Elizabeth Marzano, and Robert Dintzner from Robinson; Barbara Moreau from Danahy; Chimene Gumbs from Peirce; and Chester Wojcik from Phelps.

Sixth Graders: James Rosensteel, Mark Deslauriers,

Dominic Ditomaso, Jennifer Bowden, Michelle Sprandel, Thomas Smith, and Michele Tetreault.

The Western District Junior High School Festival has scheduled a pre-festival rehearsal at the Bellamy Middle School, Chicopee, on Saturday, March 28th from 9 to 3:30 o'clock. The conductor of the junior high school district orchestra will be Patrick Smith, orchestra and string teacher in the Amherst, Mass. school system.

Agawam students participating are as follows: Seventh Graders: Kim Downing, Ali Kitchell, Cathy Landry, and Peter Sonders. Eighth Graders: Angela Christy, Nancy Frappier, Joanne Mason, and Jennifer Powell.

The concert date for this festival is Saturday, April 11th with rehearsal set for 1 to 5 p.m. and the performance slated to begin at 7 p.m. This event will take place at Bellamy Middle School, Chicopee, also.

Band Slates Paper Drive

The Agawam High Band will sponsor a Paper Drive on April 4 and 5 at the High School parking lot between the hours of 9 and 4. For any pick-ups, contact any band or color guard member or any person at the parking lot on those days.

Snippets

A nondenominational prayer room where members of Congress may pray and meditate is located off the rotunda of the Capitol. Dominating the room is a stained glass window of George Washington kneeling in prayer at Valley Forge.

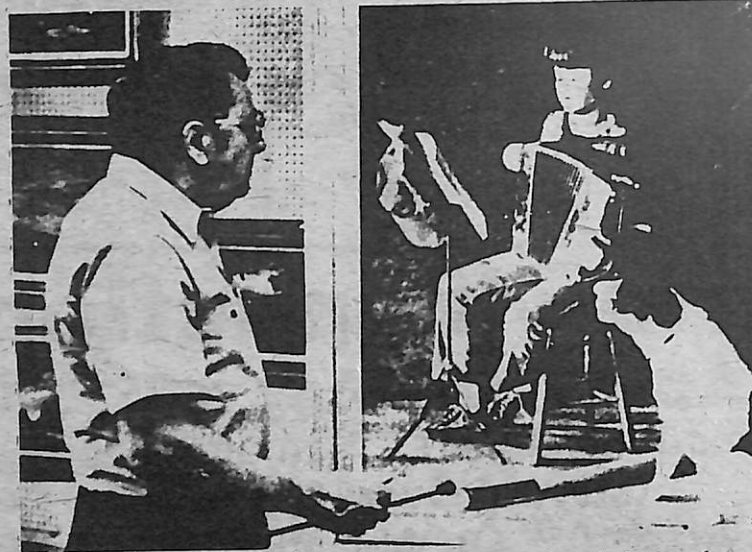
In September, 1919, Massachusetts Governor Calvin Coolidge attained national prominence by calling out the State Guard in the Boston police strike. This brought his name before the Republican convention of 1920, where he was nominated for vice president.

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SPORTS

Polish Club Pride



The Brothers Vecchiarelli, from left, Phil, David, Dean and Peter (with ball) have been instrumental in keeping the Polish Club atop the AAA 13-15 boys hoop league four consecutive seasons. Polish Club recently completed a perfect 10-0 season under Phil's guidance and Dave's play at forward and with Peter's encouragement as ballboy. Dean is a former player and also assistant coach. Proud father Phil, not in picture, is the squad's general manager and promoter. Photo by Jack Devine.

Take 10-12 Playoffs

AAA Highlights: McCarthy Tile On Top

McCarthy Tile are the champions of the AAA Boys 10-12 league. Tile tied Agawam Custodians for first place in a late season rush to force a best two-out-of-three playoff. McCarthy tile won swept the series in two straight by scores of 34-20 and 46-39.

After losing their first two games of the season, Coach Rich Mahoney's squad strung eight consecutive games in a row to tie for the top spot with Custodian, who won their first seven contests but dropped two of out their last three regular season contests.

Mahoney's squad progressed with each week and peaked at the season's end. The unselfish play of the team was the biggest single factor for its success.

Leading the team were Paul Scoville at center and Leo Santinello at forward, both who had the ability to play at both ends of the court. Playmaker Mickey

Lunden and defensive standout Tony Buoniconti and quick forward Wayne Leal aided the winning cause.

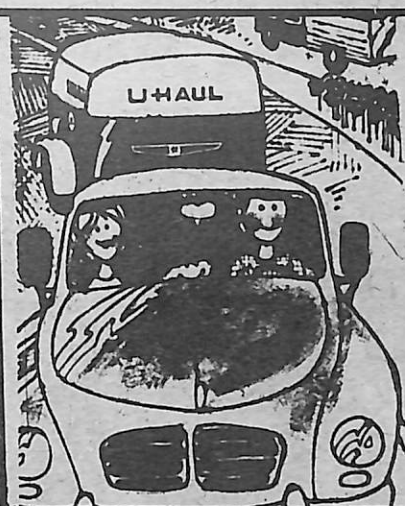
The strength of reserves John Cooling, Jim Maloney, Jeff Govoni and Skip Cone added to the team effort.

For Custodian, it was a disappointing end to a more than successful campaign.

Custodian was led throughout the year by center Brian Tiemblay and guard-forward Greg Larouche. Guards Jim Hansen and Jeff O'Keefe, both returning next year, played well, especially in the playoffs.

Forwards Alistar Fairle and Tony Frogameni vastly improved and were key figures in the two playoff contests. Chris Gagnon, and Bobby Aversa, two reserve forwards and returning next year, also improved during the season.

Members of McCarthy Tile's 10-12 boys championship squad are, Coach Rich Mahoney (back), Skip Cone, Mickey Lunden, Paul Scoville and John Cooling. Front row, Tony Buoniconti, Leo Santinello, Wayne Leal and Jim Maloney. Missing is Jeff Govoni.



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Sportsman Corner

By Bill Chiba

Commissioner Edward Kehoe of the Vermont Fish and Game Dept. was honored by the New England Outdoor Writers Association at their annual dinner on March 14th. Ed was feted as the Outdoorsman of the Year for 1981. It certainly was given to a most deserving person.

Ed has withstood and served under four governors during his sixteen years as commissioner. Ed's policies have been very progressive right from the start and under his administration the turkey population has grown to 8,000-12,000 birds, and Vermont now has a regular spring and fall season. Trapped Vermont birds have helped to establish flocks in Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey and a successful plant has taken hold in West Germany. All freely given.

The primary aim of Ed Kehoe was to get the fish and game released from the greedy hands of the legislature. Finally after a long struggle, management of the game in Vermont is in the hands of the Fish and Game Dept. where it belongs. At the present time, Ed is attempting to bring the deer herd in line with the availability of the food supply in Vermont. He is being criticized for his efforts, but he has wide Irish shoulders and is continuing with the program. Under the program, he predicts that a harvest of 15,000-20,000 deer yearly will be a common thing in the future, and they will be much healthier and robust.

I think that one of the main reasons Ed has survived four governors is his tight management of his department. His department is one of the few that operates in the black funded only by license sales and federal P.R.-D.J. funding.

I feel that Vermont is fortunate to have such a man at the helm of their Fish and Game Department. Managers of his caliber only come along once in a lifetime.

The Wilbraham American Legion 286 is starting Ham Archery shoots on Sunday, March 22 and will hold them every Sunday from then on through April 12. The shoots will be held on the club grounds on Boston Road. The first arrow will fly at 12 noon.

For you people who are concerned with the gypsy moth infestation that we had this past year, an environmental impact study is available for public study at the Cooperative Extension Office, 1499 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield. The complete study will be submitted to the office of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act for review and final approval. It will be updated every two to three years to reflect new information about control methods.

The latest word on Lake Ontario is that it is expected that the run of trout and salmon will be three weeks ahead of time this year. The warm weather and mild winter is pin-pointed as the major cause.

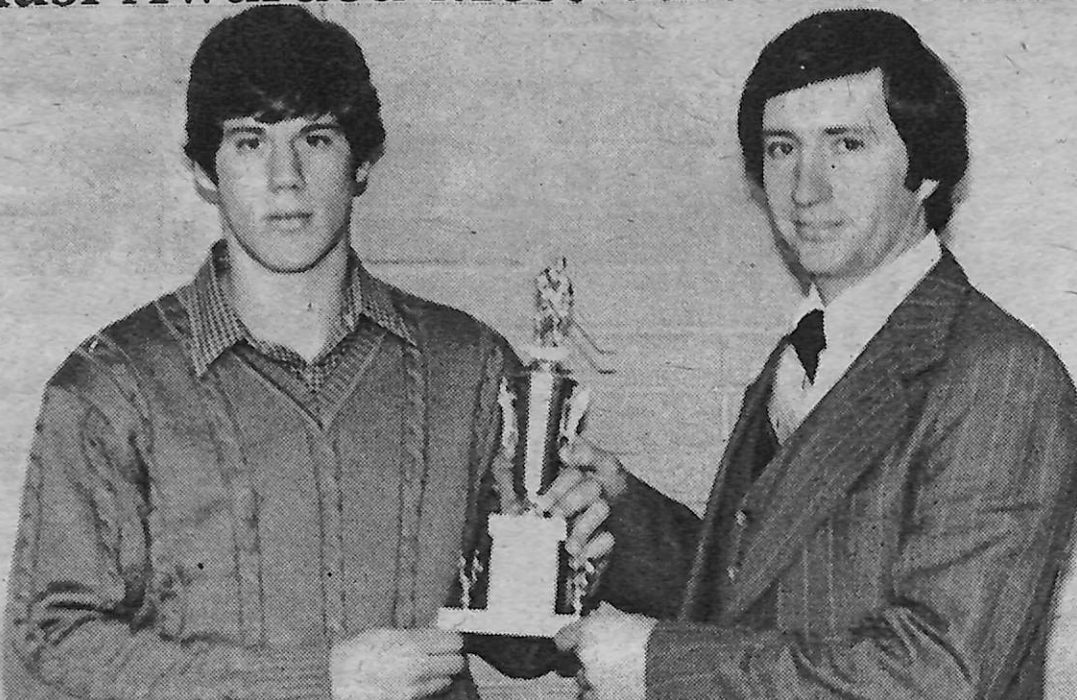
Suburban Baseball Tryouts Set

Sacred Heart Athletic Association, a member of the 14-16 Suburban Baseball League, will hold tryouts on Saturday, April 4th, from noon to 2 p.m. and on Sunday, April 5th, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Phelps Field for positions on their team in the area league. Any interested individual is welcome to tryout.

Norman Dufault, former hurler for Western New England College, will be manager of the team this year, and Mike Grimaldi will be coach.

The Sacred Heart league farm team for 6-8 year old boys still has openings. Contact Father Burns or Mrs. Fay Grimaldi at the rectory on Springfield Street for sign-ups.

Masi Awarded Most Valuable Senior



Senior Vin Masi recently received the Most Valuable Senior Award at the varsity hockey banquet held at the West Springfield-Agawam Elks Lodge. Masi, one of the top players in W. Mass., proudly displays his award with varsity coach Bill Sapelli. Masi helped the squad reach the Western Mass. semi-finals. Photo by Jack Devine.



WIGGLE-waggle is the racewalking gait. Racewalking has been an international competition for decades but now is catching on in the United States. The gait comes from always keeping one foot on the ground at all times. Shape-Up Run racewalkers show their style in New York's Central Park and are shaping up for this year's competition.

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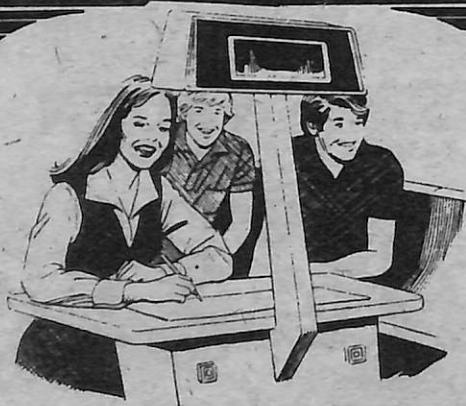
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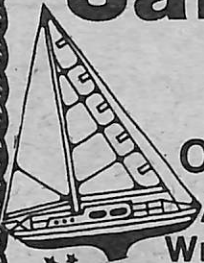
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Dick LeBlanc proudly stands with the award given to this fine race car sponsored by a combined effort of Smiley's Auto Body, Pioneer Valley Auto Parts and Kendall Oil Company at the recent RACEARAMA at the Springfield Civic Center. Congratulations Dick and all the people associated in the success at the race car show. Photo by Jack Devine.

Local Racecar Wins Awards

At the first annual "Racearama" sponsored by the *Speedway Scene Racing Newspaper* held at the Springfield Civic Center, the Pioneer Valley Auto Parts, Smiley's Auto Body and Kendall Oil Company sponsored modified stock car received the following awards:

1. outstanding exterior paint award.
2. outstanding use of color and design award.
3. outstanding individual display award.

The Racearama attended by an estimated 25,000 spectators featured race cars of all types on display. Local racing drivers as well as several noted national drivers such as Bill Alsup, driving for the Penske Indianapolis Racing team were on hand. Automotive racing and high performance displays by various speed shops were additional crowd-pleasers.

Over 60 racing cars were showcased and all were in competition for the above mentioned awards.

Smiley's Auto Body, located in Feeding Hills for six years, has established a reputation for award-winning accomplishments in the automotive paint field. After the Racearama judging, Smiley's Auto Body received these awards for paint work done on the local entry.

The awards recognize only one of the many services available at Smiley's. Complete auto collision repairs, custom painting, mural scenes, restoration, commercial design work, motorcycle and fiberglass work are other Smiley specialties.

The combined efforts of Pioneer Valley Auto Parts and Kendall Oil Company were also instrumental in achieving the top honors. Pioneer Valley Auto Parts, located in Feeding Hills for over 13 years has also been the local Kendall Oil dealer for the same period of time.

The race car was displayed in a room-like setting that featured the car on a rug with lights and mirrors reflecting the paintwork and a barnboard wall background. Both Pioneer Valley car products and Kendall Oil were displayed. The complete safety uniform for the driver and sponsored by Pioneer Valley Auto Parts displayed the latest Simpson RX-1 Helmet, 3 layer fireproof suit and racing shoes, gloves, sox and underwear.

Many people were amazed that the total investment in the driver's safety gear was approximately \$1,000.

Many Agawam kids had a chance to have their pictures taken in the race car and received autographs from Dick LeBlanc, also of Feeding Hills, who will be driving the car this year. Chris LeClaire of Feeding Hills and Karen Hess of Southwick helped the entire 3 days of the show by giving out Kendall decals and hats and candy bars to the kids as well as answering some questions about the race car.

Dick LeBlanc would like to thank all local race fans who attended the Racearama and especially the many people who helped to make the display the **Outstanding Individual Display** of Racearama '81.

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On Sports

BY JOHN DALTON

A lot of pro athletes hate to go on the road. Not Reggie King.

"I eat a lot better on the road," says King, a 6-foot-6, 245-pound forward who is the leading rebounder for the NBA Kansas City Kings.

King, a 24-year-old bachelor, is a stranger in the kitchen.

On road trips, though, he has an excuse not to worry about cooking. Says King: "I'm usually with the other guys and we go out and eat together."

As an 1979 NBA rookie, King had a bellyful of troubles.

Says King: "My stomach was upset almost all of last season because I didn't eat right. It was really tough."

"I'm not one of the best cooks in the world."

A typical dinner at the home of the former University of Alabama star used to consist of meals like sausages out of a can — or a lot of tuna fish.

Naturally, he ran into trouble when Kansas City was playing at home.

King admits, "I wouldn't eat breakfast before practice because I was too lazy. And, besides, I really didn't know how to make anything. So, by the time practice was over my stomach was bothering me and I didn't feel like eating."

It took the Birmingham, Ala., player time to get used to life as a pro.

"I never thought about the adjustment of being away on my own," he says. "Even though I was the team's top draft choice, I kept wondering how I'd do in pro ball. The other things never entered my mind."

King still isn't a gourmet chef, but his kitchen work has improved.

"This year I've vowed to try to do everything to take care of my body and my eating habits certainly needed improving," he says. "I've always gotten plenty of rest. But I knew I'd have to eat the proper foods on a regular basis."

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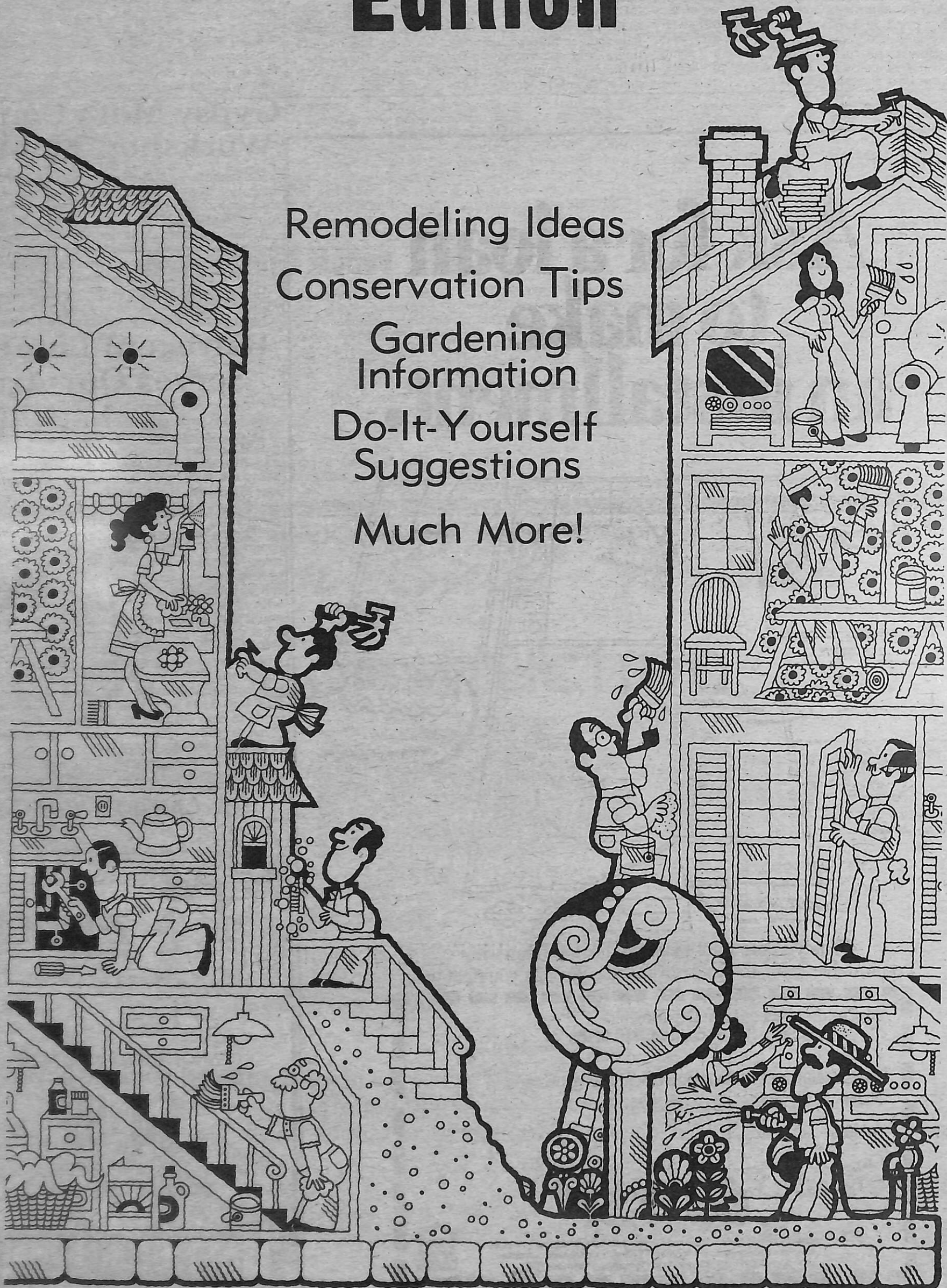
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Our 1981 Home Improvement Edition

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Facinating Tips On Indoor - Outdoor Care

By Jeanne Hoffman - Agawam Library Staff

In 1970, Bert Bacharach wrote a book telling *How To Do Almost Everything* that became an instant success. Last year, Mary Ellen Pickham made the best sellers list with her *Best Of Helpful Hints*.

What makes these collections of household advice so popular? Maybe the answer is that they fill a special need for everyone who is trying to maintain homes and gardens. Obviously, we want to find inexpensive ways to solve the myriad problems of upkeep. But we also need to squeeze as much fun out of the chores as possible.

There is happy inspiration in discovering tips like this one: "You can give evergreens a healthier, greener glow by watering the earth at the base of the trees with -- beer! So now we're all set if we have a languishing landscape, - we can throw a party, and save the leftovers for the shrubbery. Here are some more innovative ways to tackle boring old problems, gleaned from Bert and Mary Ellen:

INSIDE THE HOUSE - Store out of season clothes in large lidded trash cans to keep them dry and moth proofed - Hide nail holes by rubbing toothpaste into the hole and rubbing it smooth with a damp sponge. Sprinkle rugs with salt before vacuuming to brighten them up and help discourage moths.

Raw Onions On Bee Stings

After washed windows are dried, rub a clean blackboard eraser over them for a good shine - Water your plants with water you've boiled eggs in, or with stale club soda - Give your favorite houseplant a shot of Geritol on a regular basis for three months to encourage new leaves and growth - Immobilize a bee or wasp that gets into your home with hair spray - If it stings you, ease the pain by applying a fresh cut raw onion to the sting.

OUTSIDE THE HOUSE Store circular saw blades in the envelopes of old record albums - Use petroleum jelly to keep outdoor light bulbs for corroding by putting a light covering of on the threads of the bulbs - Remove old bumper stickers with nail polish remover and with gentle scraping with a razor blade.

Prevent rust on tools by putting a piece of charcoal, chalk, or several moth balls in the tool box - Help make birds nesting easier by collecting lint from your dryer, yarn from your handiwork, and hair from your brush, then fasten them lightly to a tree branch - Attract more birds to your birdbath by dropping a few colored marbles in it.

For more ideas on coping with potential trouble spots, there is a handy number for you at the Public Library: 640. That is the Dewey decimal number for household solving. Incidentally, you are in the best of poetic company if such troubles plague you.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once wryly stated that "...a man's house is his master, and a task for life. He must furnish it, show it, and keep it in repair the rest of his days."

So, if MacBeth's words, "Out, damned spot" apply more to your couch than your conscience, come to the Public Library and find a solution that won't leave you wringing your hands in despair!

Gypsy Moth Control Workshop Planned

Massachusetts Audubon Society's Laughing Brook Education Center in Hampden is holding an afternoon workshop concerning Gypsy Moths on Saturday, April 4th at 1 p.m.

A slide program depicting the life cycle of the insect, its history and methods of controlling its population will be presented. Practical suggestions for safe control of caterpillars in backyards will be given.

This program is free to the public, but donations will be accepted at the door. Reservations are necessary. For more information, call 566-8034.

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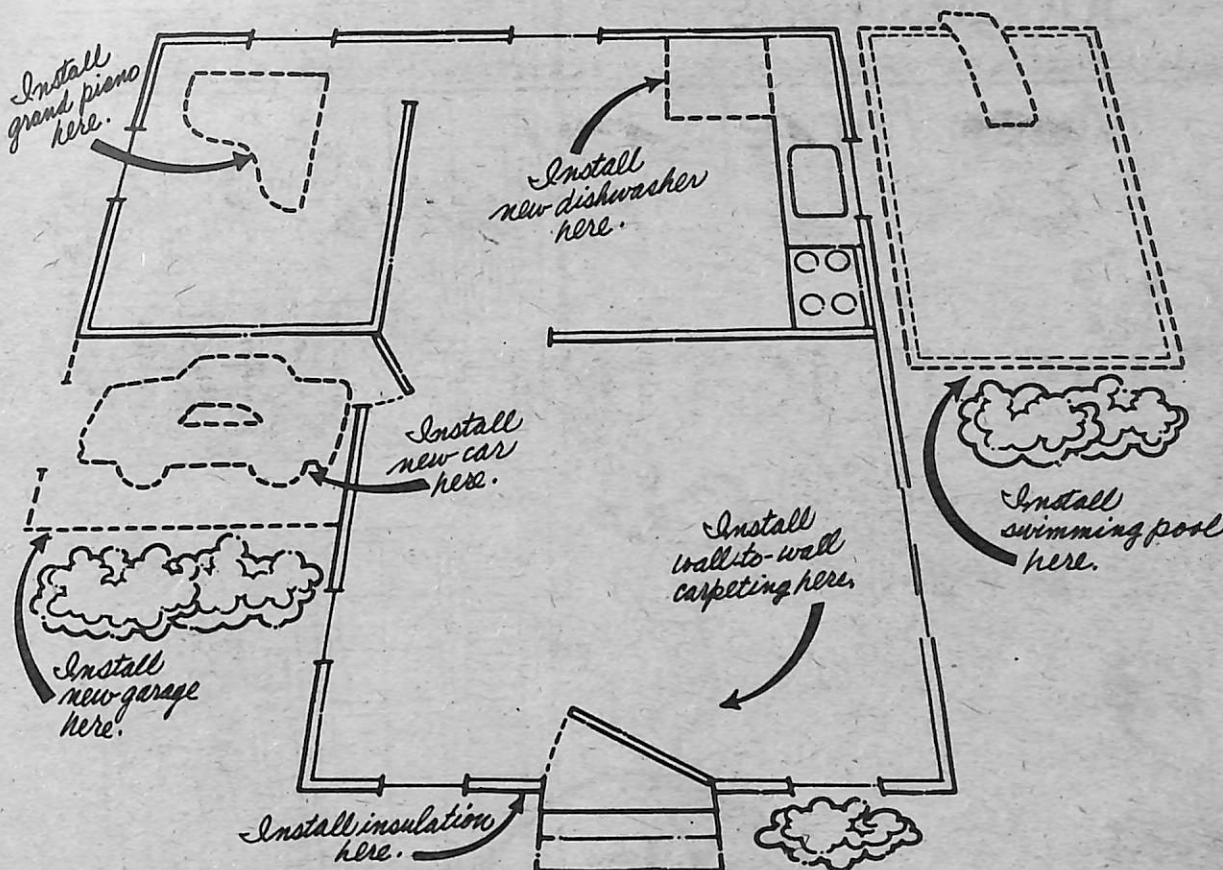
Also known as American Hardware & Lumber Company, Inc. Battistoni Lumber is a ServiStar member, along with belonging to the largest lumber cooperatives in the country. All this adds up to a strong buying power which enables them to pass everyday savings along to their customers.

It also enables Battistoni to provide its customers with a wide and varied range of products. Every day, you'll hear a customer of theirs say, "If you can't find what you're looking for, go to Battistoni's."

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Buying A House? Look At Trees

Next time you're in the market to buy a house, when you check the roof, the paint, the drains and the furnace, also take a critical look at the trees. Trees can help save fuel, cool the house, absorb noise and provide privacy. Make sure they're not going to fall down tomorrow.

According to Francis Holmes of the UMass Cooperative Extension Service, there are several things a potential homeowner can do to check the health of the trees in the yard.

Look at the base of the tree, where it meets the ground. Does the trunk flare out, or does it go straight into the ground like a utility pole? The flare shows normal depth. Holmes, director of the Shade Trees Laboratories, says that the straight-pole effect shows that "fill" was put over the roots to make a level lawn. This smothers the roots and can kill the tree.

Also glance at the top of the tree. Dead twigs and branches usually indicate root injuries or root diseases. Large numbers of dead twigs and branches may mean that routine care, such as pruning, has been neglected for years.

A tree's roots can grow out several hundred feet from the trunk. Examine the trunk for a large number of new scars. A new scar has no roll of callus growth along its margins. Multiple scars may mean that heavy equipment ran over the root system, shearing and crushing thousands of tiny rootlets which pick up water. During the next few years, the tree is likely to decline seriously.

Look to see how near a newly-built house the large

trees are growing. The closer the tree, the more of its root system was cut off when the foundation and cellar were dug. The loss of many roots may mean decline, dieback, and death.

Also check for any signs of recent trenching. Find any metal covers, pipes or meters in the lawn. Ask where the underground gas, electricity and telephone services come in and ask to see exactly where the septic tank, if any, is located. Roots may have been cut along those lines. Check for large areas of new pavement over part of the root system. Roots smother if cut off from air by the pavement.

Constrictions such as wire, chain, or a fence embedded in the trunk can strangle the tree. Look also for many new, large pruning scars on the trunk and larger branches. The branches may have been cut because they were dead, and you should find out why they died.

When water backs up into soil that once was well aerated, then the drainage has probably been changed. Look for standing water in the grass near the tree. If the water remains, then the roots will "drown" and the treetop will begin to die of "thirst" because the dead roots no longer deliver water to the trunk.

Finally, Holmes recommends paying a modest fee for a professional examination by a locally established arborist. Since the trees and shrubs make up about 15% of the value of the house and property, they deserve an appraisal. Ask for a written estimate, including all care the trees seem to need.

Buying a home is a major investment. Take the time and care to make the final decision the right one.

LAWN and GARDEN TIPS



Now, in early spring, is the best time to prevent future pest outbreaks with a dormant spray program.

A dormant spray is used on a tree or shrub while it is leafless and dormant—live but not actively growing. A dormant spray is so effective because it kills overwintering insects and diseases before they have a chance to multiply and infest new growth.

In general, dormant sprays are most effective against scale insects, mites, mealy bugs, many types of insect eggs and hibernating caterpillars.

Dormant sprays are usually composed of oil, lime-sulfur or a combination of the two. The lime-sulfur spray has fungicidal action which can be used against rose canker, black spot, mildew, scab, and other fungus diseases. Some dormant sprays are a combination insecticide-fungicide that will control both insects and plant disease.

Always read label directions carefully and follow them exactly.

Dormant sprays should be applied before buds swell and when the possibility for heavy freeze damage has passed. In most locations, this means that spraying should be done in early Spring.

Spray only when the temperature is above 40 (F), and

when a freeze is not expected within the next 24 hours. Apply on a calm, sunny day so the plants have a chance to dry before night.

The National Sprayer and Duster Association suggests when you spray that you cover the plant thoroughly without overspraying. Spray all plant parts—twigs, branches, and trunk—just to the point of run-off.

For best results, NSDA specialists also recommend that you use proper spray equipment. A slide-type sprayer is ideal for dormant spraying. This type of sprayer can reach high into trees and can also be adjusted to spray low-growing plants and shrubs. A compressed air sprayer, with a tank capacity from one to four gallons, is also good for the application of dormant sprays to shrubs.

For larger jobs—such as an orchard—a power sprayer provides the greatest ease and versatility.

When you finish your early spring spraying, always clean your sprayer, keeping it ready for the next job.

A little planning coupled with a dormant spray program now will bring you rewards in the warmer months ahead as you enjoy pest-free trees and shrubs.

Save Time & Money

INDOOR GARDEN — Brighten winter drab interiors with a profusion of lovely paper white narcissus you grow yourself. Buy good bulbs and shallow containers. Fill these with aquarium pebbles and plant bulbs, tips up, filling the containers half way with warm water. Rest bulbs in a cool, dark closet for two weeks or more, until root systems are formed. Bring into light, and enjoy the fragrant blooms for a month.

WINDOW WASHING — The battle on how to clean winter grime from windows rages on. Everyone as a favorite method — water with ammonia, with vinegar, with washing soda, kerosene, alcohol ... or just water. Whatever you choose, remember the rules: don't scrub glass with a dry cloth; don't wash in bright sunlight, and don't use pure soap — it leaves a film. And, one more don't, don't "sit-out" to do the outside of the pane.

GOLD STRIKE — Soaring gold prices have caused many consumers to dig into jewelry boxes, drawers and bank deposit boxes to sell unused items containing gold. If you're thinking of doing likewise, beware. Find a reputable dealer; shop and compare prices offered; and remember that weight is determined by the amount of precious metal, rather than by the total weight of the piece.

SUPER TIPS — And stay organized when you go grocery shopping. Don't dread the job — organize and you'll accomplish a great deal more in less time. Do homework — check the specials and plan your meals around these. Eat first. Never shop when hungry. Try to go alone. Leave the children behind, and avoid going with friends lest you be prodded into buying what you don't need. And, remember to take your list, please.

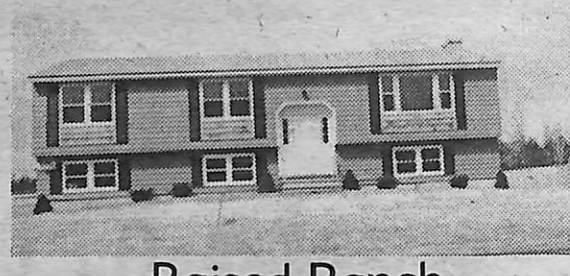
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J.O. Young Company of Ramah Circle, Agawam, has been repairing and installing roofs in the area for 81 years. The Agawam firm is well known for its quality and workmanship. Photo by Jack Devine.

Hints On Roofing

By Stephen Gazillo

According to Jeff Robb, the average roof of a single family house should withstand 15-25 years of wind, rain, hail, snow, and sleet depending on the quality of the shingles and the workmanship of the installers.

Robb is general manager of J. O. Young Company, a firm located at 81 Ramah Circle in Agawam that has specialized in roofing since 1900.

For the most part, roofs should be maintenance free for extended periods of time, but when a problem does arise, homeowners should weigh the situation carefully before going ahead with any work.

Robb explained that there are but a few preventive measures to take that are helpful in prolonging the life of a roof. These include keeping branches away from the roof and regular cleaning of gutters and downspouts to prevent build-up of water. Great care should be exercised when trying to remove heavy snow from a flat roof, as the friction of a shovel could easily jar the tiles loose and added body weight puts more pressure on the roof structure.

"It doesn't hurt to plan ahead for a new roof," Robb pointed out. "Most people wait until there is a leak

before contemplating a new roof. This can lead to serious problems inside the house, ending up in wrecked ceilings and stained wallpaper," he added.

When it comes to choosing the type of roof to install and how to go about it, Robb offers the following advice: 1) There are a variety of roofing materials. The most common and efficient type, according to Robb, is the standard self-sealing asphalt shingle. These shingles are sold according to their weight when laid out on a hundred-square-foot area. The common weights are 240, 290, and 340 pounds. The 240-pound shingle is guaranteed for fifteen years, whereas the 290 and 340-pound shingles have a 25-year warranty.

Asphalt shingles are wind, fire and weather resistant.

Other types of shingles include the cedar or wood variety, which requires a certain amount of maintenance and is extremely expensive, and a new, fireproof fiberglass shingle.

"Although the asphalt shingle is only fire resistant

A good company keeps a record of every roof they have installed, and a good warranty will cover any damage done to the ceiling or walls if it is a result of faulty workmanship during the installation.

It is also crucial to check the type of insurance a contractor carries. For example, if the contractor doesn't provide workmen's compensation for employees, then the homeowner can be sued if a worker is injured on the job. "The customer should always ask for a certificate of insurance from a contractor before the job begins," Robb cautions.

3) Check to make sure the roof is installed in compliance with the building code. Specifically, the building code for a single-family does not allow more than three layers of shingles on a roof. More than that is a hazard. Insurance companies will drop their coverage if a house does not comply with the code.

4) The average cost of a new roof varies from 1,000 to 2,000 dollars for a typical asphalt roof on a small single-family house. Robb points out, however, that it is better not to think in terms of an average cost because there are too many variables.

In general, a roof is something that should not be left up to a "fly-by-night" outfit. "There is no other investment for most people as large as their home," Robb said. "Why take a chance?"

For more information on roofing, contact Jeff Robb at 786-4140.

and not fireproof like fiberglass, it generally is a superior product for the single-family house," Robb suggested.

As far as aesthetics go, the asphalt shingle now comes in a dimensional, textured form providing the look of an authentic wood, mansard or other style roof.

2) When considering a contractor to install the roof, Robb cautions that it is important to select someone who has been in the business for at least ten years. The reason: what good is a 15-year warranty if the company or contractor who does the installation is out of business in two years? "The warranty is only as good as the person who puts the roof on," Robb stated.

Save Time & Money

BY ANN FRANCES DOLAN

GREENSKEEPING — Lettuce and celery seem to wilt in the fridge as soon as you put them in? Remove vegetables from plastic wrap and wash them. Drain, then wrap in paper-grocery sacks or white butcher paper. Place in storage bins,

lined with paper towels to absorb excess moisture.

DOG GONE — Want to give Rover a fast cleanup before company arrives without resorting to the tub and ensuing mess? Rub baking soda into his coat, then brush it off on newspapers

spread on the floor. Cleans and deodorizes him, too.

FIREPLACE FIXIN' — A well-functioning fireplace is a winter delight. Keeping it clean needn't be such a chore if you know how. A large art gum eraser will remove smoke stains from stone if you rub it lightly over the surfaces. A good cleaning solution for both brick and stone facings is a half cup of trisodium phosphate dissolved in a gallon of hot water. Vinegar will take soot from tile surfaces and a sprinkling of salt on logs once a week or so will keep down soot deposits in all fireplaces.

BLIND FIXERS — Use old, soft mittens or gloves to clean Venetian blinds. Slip them on, dip hands in detergent suds and glide hands

over hard-to-get-at places on the blinds.

BANG UP START — Get out of the breakfast rut by trying something different to start your day. Instead of plain orange juice, put a cup of juice, two eggs, a dash of honey and some crushed ice in the blender, blend and sip an orange nog while you dress. Later, top cooked oat cereal with a scoop of vanilla ice cream, laced with cinnamon and nuts. The hot-cold combo is delicious.

TRIVET TRICKS — Colorful, inexpensive straw trivets have lots of usages in lots of rooms. Grouped, they're brightening wall decorations. They can be thumbtacked across the width of a bed to "fake" a headboard, serve as plant "saucers," and, of course, as trivets for hot foods.

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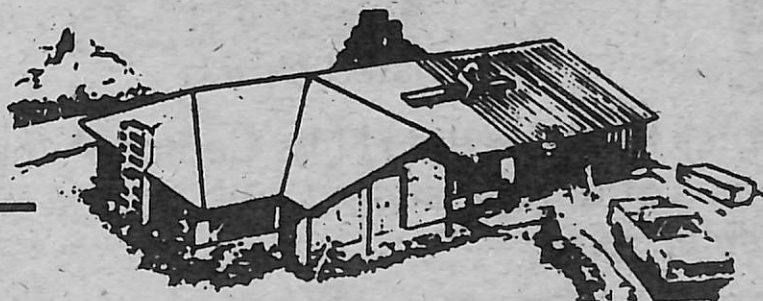
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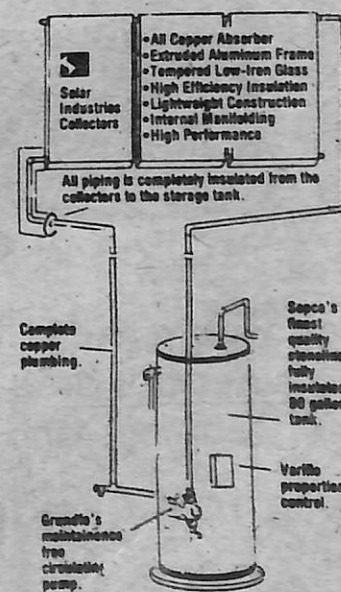


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Mr. Fix

The paint roller has made experts of us all and, if the resulting paint job isn't quite what it should be, most of us assume that this is because we are too new at being expert.

Now and then we blame the paint and try another brand. Occasionally we see that some of the trouble is technique.

As for the roller itself — well, one spends good money on a paintbrush, but not on a roller. Use it, wash it maybe, or just throw it away when the job is done. The very expediency and simplicity of this gadget makes us overlook it.

But there is a difference in rollers. Some of it is quality. Other differences are purposely built in by manufacturers who realized that rollers, like brushes, can be designed differently for different jobs.

While the one-quarter inch nap of mohair or synthetic fibers suits the average wall job, there are other types as well — 1/2-inch nap for textured and masonry surfaces; nubby for texturing; 3/4-inch nap for rough masonry; 1 1/4-inch for link fencing and very rough masonry; carpet for stippling.

The biggest improvement in rollers has been the use of synthetic fibers (Dacron, Dynel, others) in place of lamb's wool and mohair (good) and rayon (not so good).

The synthetics work beautifully with latex paints, holding their form, not turning soft and messy, washing easily and remaining good for many, many paint jobs.

Buying the best could save you money in the long run. Since the best will wash out and remain as good as new for the next job, one of these will out-distance a number



of cheaper throwaway rollers.

Pick the shortest nap for the job, since it will result in a smoother surface. After that look for quality. Spread the fibers apart with your fingers. If you can see the material at the base the fibers are too thin; get one with denser fiber.

Cheap roller covers have cardboard cores — fine for paper towels but no good for painting. On a good roller cover, the core is plastic or plastic impregnated.

Pick a roller with a handle that is comfortable. It should have provision for adding extensions for painting ceilings, high walls and floors.

See how easy it is to slip the roller cover on and off. Avoid the kind that requires loosening or removing a wing nut. A good type is one that consists of flexible metal rods that give way to allow the cover to be slipped on and off. The roller should spin easily without being too loose.

(c) 1981 Suburban Features

Jolly Green Thumb

BY MARY FUREY CRYMES

To a gardener, published lists of best-selling books are ho-hum news. Tell him of recent exciting fiction and non-fiction you've read and get a polite nod. But, give him a new gardening catalog and watch his interest kindle.

It's that dreaming, scheming, planning, plotting time of year for diggers everywhere. The new catalogs are out, and the prosaic mailbox becomes a place of wonderment. Those catalogs contain the stuff that dreams are made of.

And, why not? What other book can offer such rich promise, so much reward, so big a pay off? In every gardener's mind lurks the certainty that he's a winner ... the grower of the biggest rhododendron, the producer of the largest yield of succulent fruits and vegetables, the owner of the plot that's the pride of the neighborhood. The catalogs' contents do much to foster that belief, and who is to say it's not a good thing?

Gardening has become one of America's favorite pastimes, and in these inflated times, anyone who produces food for his own table, with the satisfaction of knowing he did it himself, is a winner.

If you've never done it, try perusing the new catalogs with the seasoned diggers. You'll find rich prose, gorgeous pictures, and, in between, practical advice on how to realize big yields in little space with minimum effort. Can mere fiction beat that? A big plus — the seed catalogs are free — yours for the asking just for sending in the coupons you find in back pages of magazines and newspapers. They will indeed turn the mailbox into a receptacle of wonderment.

Just a casual glance through the pages of a few representative catalogs brings forth good news of what's new. One offers a promising, recently developed squash, "Kuta," a fast grower (42 days). It has the texture of eggplant with none of that vegetable's problems, and sounds terrific. Then there's "Merrymum" for the flower lovers — a bright yellow chrysanthemum — like marigold. And, there's a new herb garden, pre-packaged, ready for planting by the kitchen door, for a world of eating enjoyment.

(c) 1981 Suburban Features

Save Time & Money

WINDOW GREEN — An instant apartment cheer-upper is a plant window. Do have one or several. Remove curtains from a sunny window and measure inside the frame. Buy brackets and have shelves of glass cut to fit. Install and place small plants in glass on the shelves. Add some shiny decorative ornaments and you have easy sparkle in the kitchen, bath or bedroom.



DESSERTING — is tough if one or more of your dinner guests is dieting. Serve two desserts — one a sumptuous meal ender for your calorie loving friends; the other, fresh fruit for the dieters. Pass small dessert plates and allow dieters to help themselves from a fruit centerpiece on the table

Mulching Mowers Save Time & Money

Some of the most annoying and time consuming activities associated with lawn care for many homeowners are the raking, bagging and hauling of grass clippings after each mowing.

With present conventional side discharge mowers, the alternative is to leave the long clippings on top of the grass. But since these soon turn an unsightly brown and tend to stunt new growth, they are raked, bagged and disposed of.

Even if the mower has a bag attached, the messy chore remains of emptying the bag and disposing of the clippings. Studies in recent years have shown that clippings need not be removed from the lawn.

Research conducted by university horticulturists and independent turf experts has shown that removing clippings removes valuable nitrogen and other natural ingredients needed for a health lawn.

In fact, one study showed that collecting clippings for two or three mowings following the application of either dry or liquid fertilizers can remove as much as one-half of the fertilizer originally applied. But again, no one wants to leave those long clippings on the lawn.

ALLEN LAWNMOWER CARRIES MULCHING MOWERS

The leader in mulching mowers for the past 20 years has been the FMC Corporation's Bolens mower. The Bolens mulching mower has been featured at the Allen Lawnmower Company since its inception.

Another innovation now on display at Allen Lawnmower is the Snapper mower. With a simple attachment called the Thatcherizer, the Snapper mower loosens tightly interwoven dead plant material which prevents lawns from getting the air, food and water necessary for healthy growth.

In addition to the Bolens and Snapper mowers, the Allen Lawnmower Company sells and services the new steel deck Bob-Cat mower, which also can serve as a mulching mower.

Allen Lawnmower, located at 197 Main Street, Agawam, also carries such nationally known name brands as Ariens, Wheel Horse, and New Englander.

This year, Allen celebrates its 34th year in business. As is their custom, a gala Open House is planned for mid-April with reduced prices on all lawn and garden equipment.

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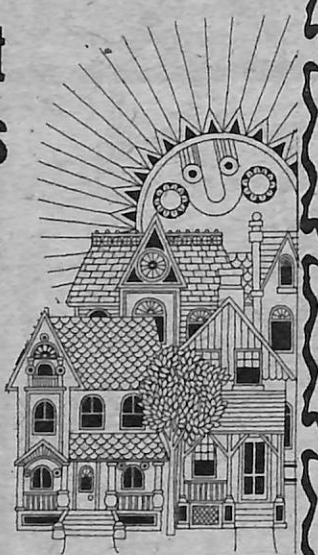
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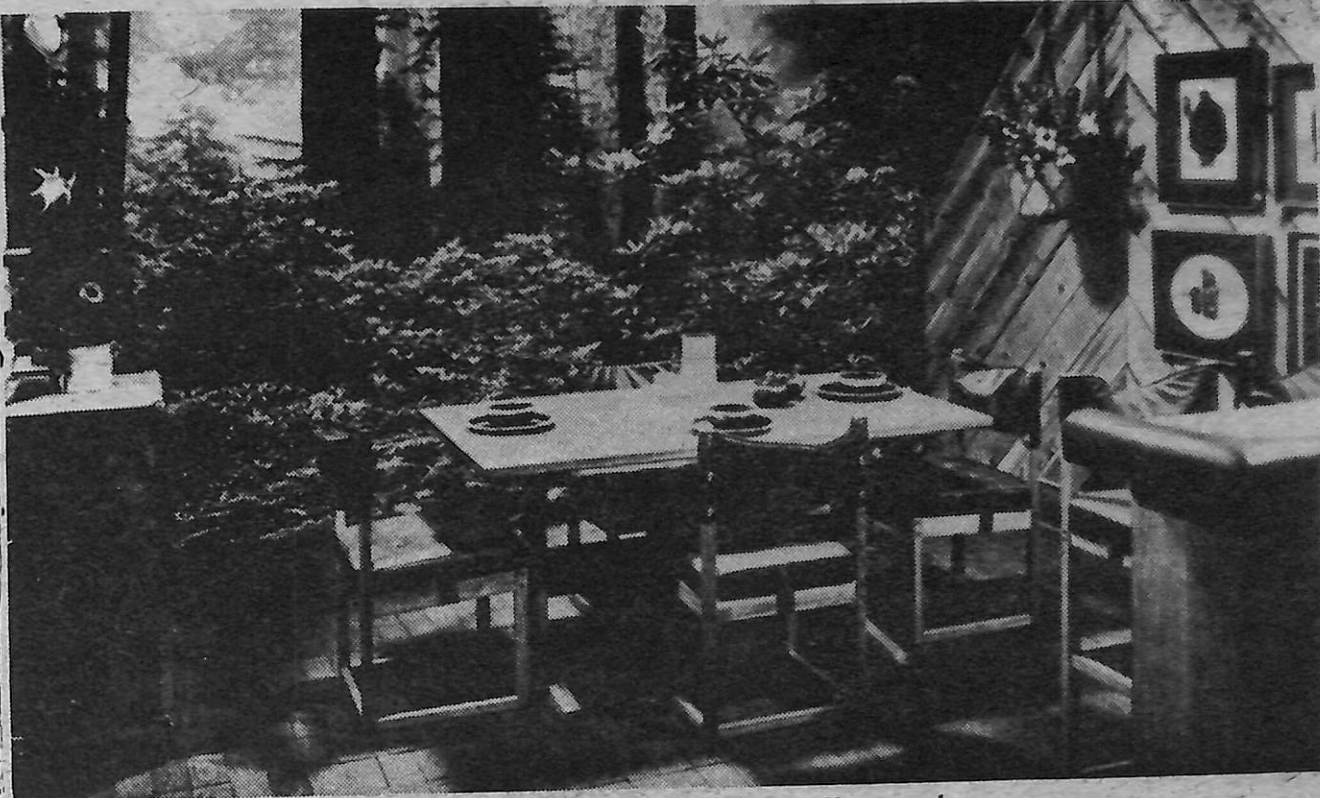
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Take Scenic Route

From New England Wallcovering Distributors

If seeing is believing, then let your mind explore the nearby forest - the one on your kitchen wall. It's an illusion, to be sure, but you create it with wallcoverings.

Wallpaper murals are a dramatic form of decorating. They capture your attention immediately, and extend their influence into every corner. They also provide the visual depth lacking in so many square rooms.

A wall-size picture livens even the barest of rooms. It adds a view to the room with no view of its own. And, if you want a change of scenery, just peel the old covering clean off the wall. Your landlord can't object to that.

Mural patterns vary widely. Nature buffs, for instance, can choose from scenes of a mountain waterfall, a placid lake, or a blooming apple tree. New

Englanders might like to gaze at a Hawaiian sunset, especially on those cold winter nights. For bachelors or artistic souls, a row of "nudes en silhouette" may prove attractive. From cartoons and balloons, an array of mural designs is available.

Whatever your taste, wallpaper murals amplify it. Your decorating scheme needn't be expensive, though. With some scenes as backdrops, a room needs very little furniture. You can also save extra dollars by hanging the "picture" yourself, which is easy to do with the instructions that are often included.

For more information on wallpaper murals as well as hints on how to hang and how to decorate, write to the New England Wallcovering Distributors Association, 131 Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.

Basil: A Fun Herb

By Dorine Kubik, Agawam Garden Club

Basil, an annual herb that must be replanted each year, is a fun plant. Try growing about six plants of basil in the spring. A sunny location in either your vegetable garden or your flower garden will do. Most garden stands that sell tomato plants will sell its companion plant, basil, in either of its two varieties: green or purple.

As an herb, the leaves are great in tomato sauces, and you can freeze them for winter use. Basil leaves can be dried and stored in airtight containers or they can be immersed in olive oil and kept for many months.

For the fun part - try letting the basil plants go to seed. Do not pinch the plants back. Spikes with tiny

white flowers will form on the green variety and tiny lavender flowers will form on the purple variety. After the first frost hits, the spikes will turn to a rich, dark brown.

If you remove the spikes and hang them upside down in a dry, airy area for a few days to dry, you will have a natural herbal room freshener that will last for many months. A musty cellar will be transformed by the warm, spicy scent of the basil when you hang a bunch in a corner from a beam.

Add dried basil to a basket of straw flowers with a callico ribbon and suddenly a combination dried arrangement and room freshener exists. It's great for gifts and inexpensive, too.

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At Ensign Cooper's Gift Shoppe You'll Find The Best In Quality



Florence Moran, an employee of Ensign Cooper Gift Shoppe, famous for fine gifts, shows off some of the shoppe's napkins and placemats that will make any dinner table complete. Ensign Cooper is located next door to the Country Squire Furniture Store, both owned and operated by the Arthur Leary family of Agawam. Photo by Jack Devine.

Water Conservation Urged At Home

Environmental Affairs Secretary John Bewick today called on all Massachusetts residents to begin water conservation efforts now in order to avoid water shortages this summer.

"The past month's rains have eased the state's water shortage," said Bewick, "but forty-two communities across the state are still reporting water shortages, and rainfall is still eight inches below normal over the past fourteen months. Unless we begin to save water now, we could face more serious and widespread shortages this summer."

Bewick has established a Drought Resources Information Program (DRIP) to channel water conservation tips to local residents. The program will highlight how individuals can save water and, in the process, help to ease the impact of a drought this summer.

Some DRIP tips are on water conservation in the bathroom, where 75% of the water in homes is used.

Avoid using the toilet as a wastebasket for cigarette butts and tissue paper as this will save the 5-7 gallons needed for each flush.

Using a displacement device in the tank, such as a plastic bottle filled with stones, will reduce the amount of water required by one or two gallons per use. Using a brick for displacement is unwise as it can disintegrate and cause damage to the system.

Reducing shower time down to five minutes will save as much as 50 gallons of water with each use.

Bathing with a quarter-full tub rather than a full one can save 20 gallons each time.

Flow-reduction showerheads can be easily installed and will reduce the total shower flow from about eleven gallons per minute to as low as three gallons per minute.

Filling the sink while shaving rather than running a continuous stream of water can save as much as 20 gallons with each use.

Save Time & Money

BY ANN FRANCES DOLAN

EX-BAGGAGE — Air travelers whose luggage arrives late, or not at all, have rights defined in new CAB rulings. Maximum liability has been raised to \$750 for bags that have been opened and have missing contents. If at all possible, make your claim before leaving the terminal. Send for No. 691G, "Air Travelers' Fly Rights," to: Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, CO 81009. It's free and could help.

TIME ORGANIZER — Feeling harried and with too many things to do? Take a tip from business leaders and make lists. Write down

every night the things you hope to accomplish the next day. In the morning, go over the list and do the most unpleasant task first. Keep list pads by the phone; in the kitchen (a continuing shopping list as you run out of kitchen items); beside the bed and in the bath, if you do your best thinking there.

BE AN EGGHEAD — and don't panic when an occasional egg drops on the kitchen floor. Sprinkle the mess with salt and go away for 10 minutes. When you come back, egg will be hard and you can sweep it into a dustpan and swab the floor with a sponge.

*A special thanks to Jeanne Hoffman
of the Agawam Public Library
and to members of the Garden Club
For Their Contributions to our
Home Improvement Issue.*

Decorating Tips

By Linda Forrest, Designer
Hardwood Institute

MULTI-PURPOSE FURNITURE IS ON THE RISE

A recent meeting of home builders agreed that the home of the future would be smaller and comparable in size to those built directly after World War II.

With room sizes shrinking, there will be less space for furniture. Consequently, to accommodate all the needs of the family, furniture will have to serve a variety of purposes.

Furniture manufacturers, aware of this growing trend, have come up with many ingenious designs made of hardwood for multi-functional pieces.

Perhaps the most versatile piece of furniture today is the wall unit. In addition to providing both storage and display space for books and collectibles, a wall unit may contain a bar, room for TV and stereo equipment, a wine rack, even a refrigerator.

It may also provide a bed. If your home or apartment is too small to accommodate overnight guests in a separate room, consider a Murphy bed, probably one of the earliest designs to deal with limited space. Simply, it is a full-size bed

built into a wall unit. During the day, it hides behind a specially-designed door. At night, it swings down to become an extra bed.

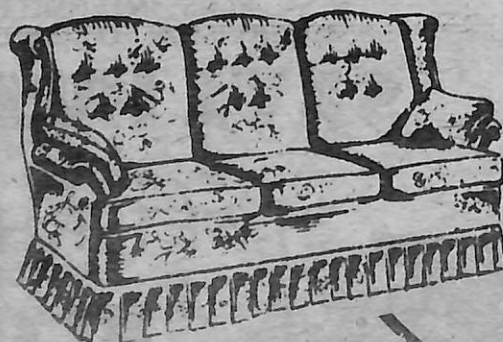
Tables can be used in many ways as well. If you enjoy backgammon, there's a coffee table with a lift-off lid that reveals a board ready for a roll of the dice. There are dining tables that feature a removable lid. When it comes off, there's a billiard table underneath ready for a cue stick.

Although you may have to sacrifice space in the future, you won't have to give up quality if you choose furniture made of hardwood. Whatever your choice, from ash for a contemporary look, curly maple for early American styles to rich tones of walnut or mahogany for traditional designs, hardwood offers durability, long life and beauty—even in a very small space.

Any questions on hardwood? Write to Linda Forrest, Hardwood Institute, Suite 1920, 230 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

CONSUMER RESOURCES — A recent government publication, the "Consumer Resource Handbook," is a guide for disenchanted consumers on

how and where to complain. Write for a free copy of No. 532 to: Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, CO 81009.



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Inside-Outside Fix-It Booklist

"I find by all that you are telling, that 'tis a house, but not a dwelling." Alexander Pope.

Pope's words ring ever true at the library where there is a wellworn path to the home improvement aisle. Here are a few of the newest and best books we offer for the family whose house may not be quite perfect yet.

Complete Book of Home Buying: Explores all the pros and cons of condominiums and townhouses, old versus new homes, mortgages, financing, and selling your home.

Remodel, Don't Move: Room by room remodeling and restoration tips for houses and apartments. Includes financing and contracting information.

This Old House: Graphic details combined with practical remodeling ideas in a step-by-step format. Covers everything from balky doors to sagging floors. Complete information from purchase to completed renovation.

Children's Rooms: Expert advice on furnishing rooms that grow with a child from birth to high school. Includes floorplans, furniture, schemes and themes.

The You-Do-It-Book of Early American Decorating: How to achieve room-by-room Early American look on a limited budget even without authentic antiques.

Space Maker Book: Unique, creative ways to redesign living space - from kitchens to closets - for optimum use. As useful to the one room apartment dweller as to the homeowner.

Outdoor Recreation Areas: Tells how to make the most of your yard, expand usable area, and evaluate recreation space. Complete directions for building tennis courts, play houses, swimming pools, fish ponds, and skating rinks.

Magazines For Further Do-It-Yourself Aid

Apartment Life: Interesting, well-illustrated layouts for do-it-yourselfers. Offers creative decorating tips.

Architectural Design: Lavishly illustrated interior design and decorating guide for rich designers and creative dreamers on every budget level.

Better Homes and Gardens: Includes articles on health, travel, food and gardening, as well as home design.

Family Handyman: Offers practical suggestions for repairing and remodeling and includes a convenient yearly index for specific problems.

House Beautiful and House and Garden: For affluent folks, and those with aspirations. Both are beautifully illustrated.

Mother Earth News: Ecology and how-to-do-it from solar heating to gardening and livestock.

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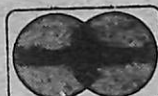
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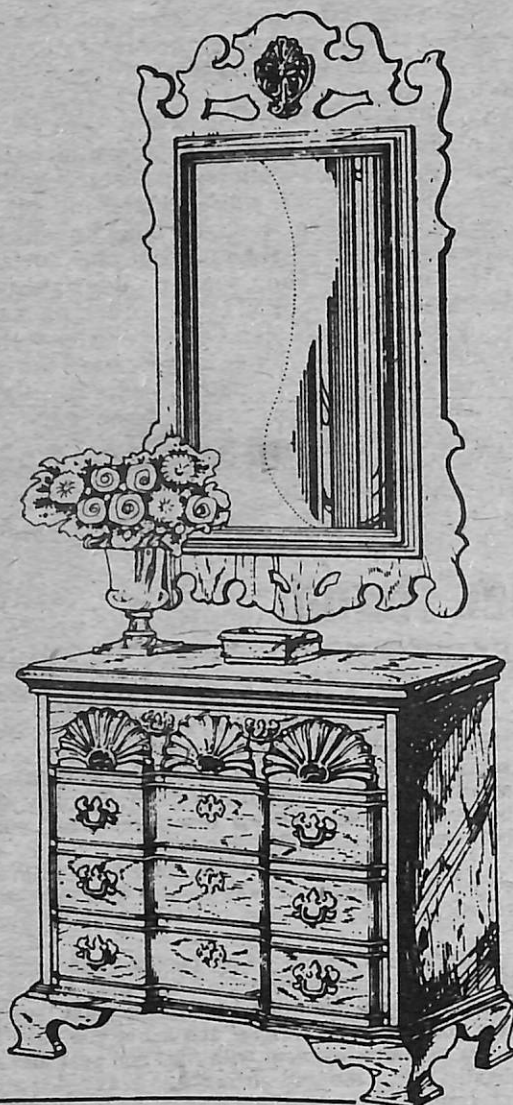


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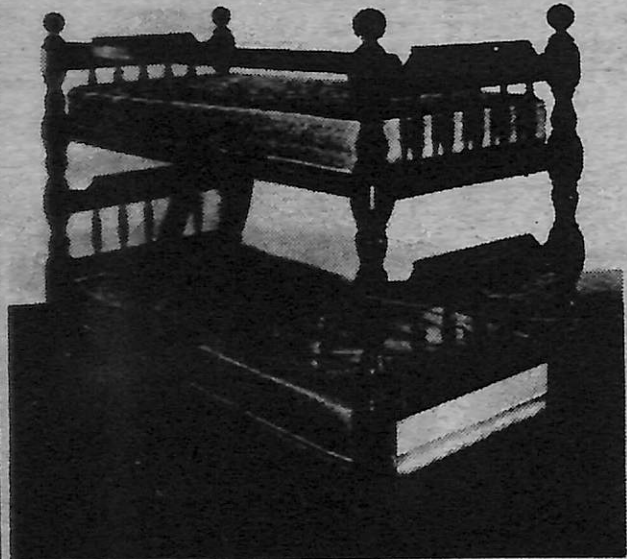
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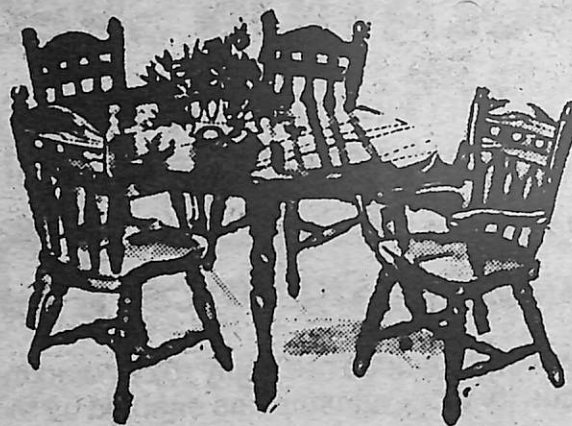
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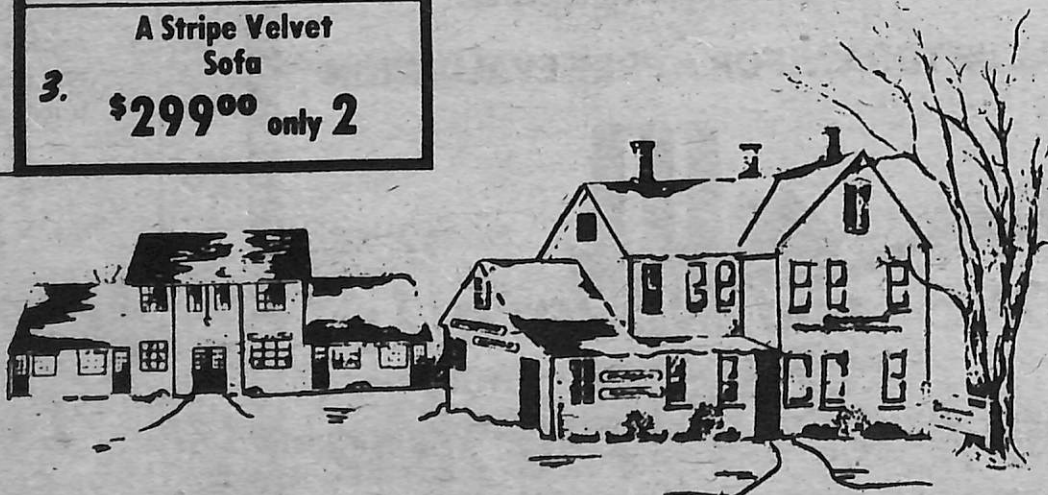


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Foundation Planting

By Fran Warga - Agawam Garden Club

Foundation landscaping consists of the groupings of plants along the base of the house or other buildings in such manner as to soften the foundation line and tie in the house to the rest of the landscape. The plants should be chosen to go well with the house and be in harmony with each other.

Evergreens, both the needle types and broad-leaved, should form the backbone of all foundation plantings. With today's emphasis on the informal, low-growing, deciduous shrubs such as potentilla, cotoneaster, Japanese barberry, or winged euonymus can be interplanted with the evergreens. Most important, however, is to select plants that have a natural appearance, good green coloring, and are fairly compact in growth habit.

The person who does the landscaping needs to have not only an artistic sense of composition, but a sound knowledge of the plants and their growing requirements to guide him in their arrangements along the foundation. He should know, for instance, that low-growing plants are not merely immature specimens of taller varieties and belong beneath windows where they will not block out light.

The taller varieties should only be used against blank walls to screen out undesirable features and to accent corners.

If the house has a monotonous, long unbroken roofline, the landscaper should know that a low-growing ornamental tree, such as a flowering

dogwood or crab, planted fairly close to the house will relieve that monotony. He should also know that tall growing trees should be planted at some distance from the house so the branches frame rather than screen the house.

The high, ugly masonry foundations that are frequently found both in older homes and the split-levels or raised ranches present a problem not only to the amateur, but often to the professional landscaper. Instead of simply screening the objectional walls with tall shrubbery, he should draw attention to them by dramatizing them.

Vines like baltic ivy or wisteria can be trained to climb the walls to provide interesting textural contrasts. Fruit trees espaliered against the walls are most attractive when in flower and later in fruit. They are especially dramatic in winter when the branches cast patterns of light and shadow onto the surface.

The landscaper should also be able to visualize how the planting will look in ten years and plan accordingly by leaving sufficient space between the plants. While intelligent pruning may be used to restrain the growth of some of the plants, there are others which do not respond to pruning and need ample space to develop.

Also, one should locate the plants at least three feet from the foundation walls, bringing them out from the roof's overhang. Such spacing allows access for the maintenance of both plants and house.



Jolly Green Thumb

BY MARY FUREY CRYMES

Everything but the kitchen sink? No, including it — for old, discarded sinks make fabulous containers for miniature gardens. The fad of the '20s is back and gaining popularity.

In the jazz age, natural stone sinks were being pitched out by builders in favor of more fashionable, white porcelain models. Gardeners of the times used the stone numbers for plantings and many homes had these "conversation piece" gardens. One even won a prize at the Chelsea Flower show in 1923.

If you want a sink garden and don't have an oldie lurking about, you'll find them at building supply houses, used appliance stores and junk yards. Haul yours home and clean it up. Plug up the hole in the bottom with wire mesh or plastic mesh.

A layer of broken crockery or rocks go in the bottom and then a layer of roughage. Use dry leaves, peat or any debris that will form a thin layer between the drainage material below and the soil above. Use any good blend of loam, peat and sand. If you're planning to grow succu-

lents, add charcoal bits to the basic mixture.

Now the creative you will sculpture the garden. Add rocks, some larger, partially submerged in the soil; some small, resting atop. Plants should be true miniatures, not small specimens that will grow to full size shrubs or houseplants later. Add a few plants that will go in between rocks and cling, like sempervivum, or the pretty, flowering Ramonda. Plant some trailers around the edges. Water and cover the surface with pebbles or tiny rocks.

Naturally, you need a firm base for your sink garden. Use a heavy pedestal or place it on a table before a sunny window or on a sturdy mantel. If you want true ruggedness, you can even "antique" the unique container first.

Mix powdered cement with sand and peat and moisten slightly. Cover the sink surface with heavy glue and apply the cement mix when glue becomes tacky. When dry, paint over with liquid cow manure so moss will form in the rough crevices. Smashing!

Mr. Fix



A basement need not be expensively paneled to be attractive. Nor need it be left as the builder finished it just because a recreation room or some other basement room is not planned.

A can of paint used on basement walls will make the area attractive for both work and play and will brighten the basement at a minimum of expense and not too much work.

Painting a basement is no more complicated than doing any other room. Remember that you're painting over masonry surfaces which require special paint and certain preparation.

Aside from appearance, paint will make a basement drier. Heavy duty water-proof coatings will retard slight moisture and seepage. Major seepage, however, cannot be prevented from the inside. A properly constructed foundation will be waterproofed from the outside.

If there is a major defect in wall or floor, this must be corrected before inside surfaces can be refinished.

Assuming that walls are sound, preparation consists primarily of cleaning. Remove all dust and dirt and other foreign material. Use a brush and water, add detergent if dirt and stains are stubborn. Scrape away coatings that are flaking or peeling. Paint applied to loose material will fall off with falling particles.

New masonry is often beset with a condition called efflorescence. This is a powder coating that must be scrubbed off. There are special masonry conditioners that you can coat over the wall to end the problem.

Mildew should be scrubbed with a solution of household bleach with

water. Repeat several times, rinsing with clear water in between and allowing to dry thoroughly.

Ordinary paints will not serve for covering masonry. They must be alkali-proof and must be permeable so that a slight amount of moisture can breathe through the paint without causing it to peel. Buy a paint specifically designed for this job. The likely types are Portland cement paints which are dry and must be mixed with water, or water-thinned latex paints. Read instructions carefully. Generally, the powder paints may be applied only over unpainted masonry or overcoatings of similar paint. Surfaces must also be thoroughly wet and kept that way while you work.

Mix only what you can use immediately because the liquid form cannot be stored. Avoid contact on skin and eyes because of the paint's lime content.

Latex paints may cost a little more but go on easier and are simpler to handle. Because they aren't heavy they can be applied with a roller. So many advances have been made in formulating these paints that it is wise to shop around for one designed for your particular problem — mildew, moisture or what have you.

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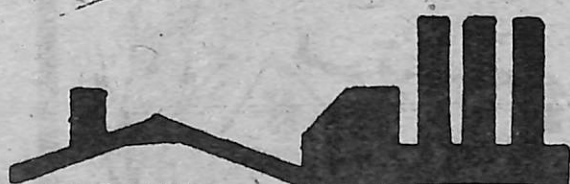
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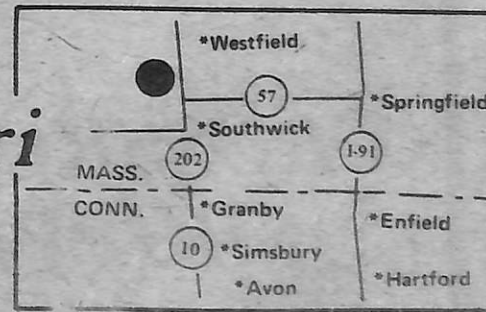
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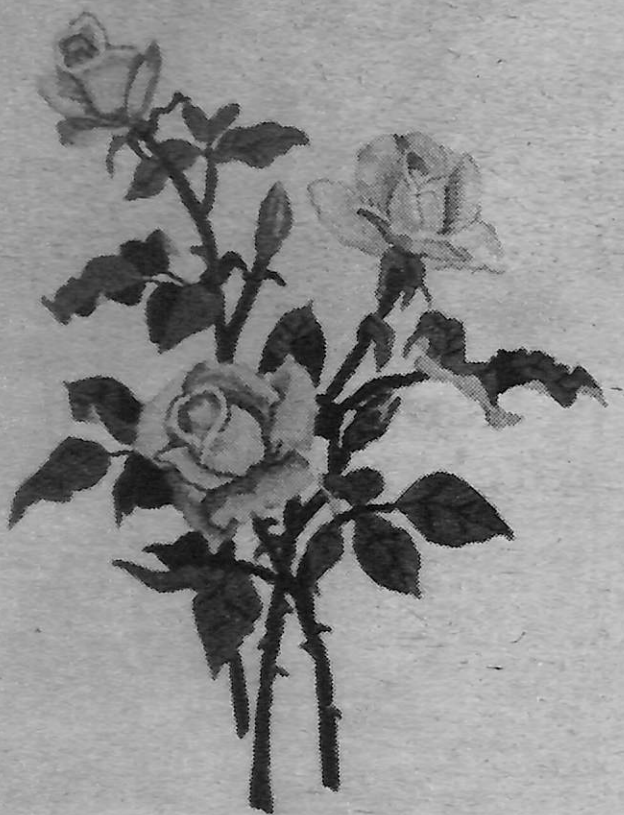
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How To Begin With Roses

By Judi Clini - Agawam Garden Club

Any article on growing roses should start with words of encouragement to the beginner who has perhaps been overwhelmed by the thought that roses make such unique demands on a gardener that growing them may be beyond his ability.

Roses do require a certain amount of pampering, but they are easy to grow and, if a few simple instructions are followed, plants should bloom for many years.



The best time to plant roses in this climate is in the spring. Choose a spot with at least six hours of sun a day, preferably morning sun. Roses are often grown in special rose beds or gardens. They also can be planted alone, but should be kept far from trees with large root systems.

Wherever the spot, the soil should be cultivated to at least 15 inches deep, and organic matter such as compost, leaf mold, peat moss, or old rotted manure should be added.

When buying roses, bare-root (dormant) bushes and potted bushes growing in containers are available. Planting potted plants is very easy: just dig a hole a few inches wider than the pot and remove from the pot and plant so the top level of the pot's soil is the same as the level of the ground.

To plant dormant plants, a wide and deep hole is required to accommodate the roots without cramping. Make a mound of soil in the center of the hole on

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which to spread the roots. The bud union (the knob where canes join roots) should be placed at ground level. Soil can now be filled in over the roots, gently tamping the soil as more is added. When the hole is about 3/4 full, water thoroughly. After water soaks in, finish filling the hole and heap a little extra soil around the plant to protect it temporarily from drying until the roots become established.

Pruning to prepare the plant for blooming is the biggest early season job with old bushes. When cane buds swell and new base shoots appear, remove soil mounds or other winter protection carefully to avoid breaking new shoots. Prune carefully at this time, cutting back main canes to living tissue and removing all dead and weak wood. If canes have not died back, prune anyway to heights of 15-18 inches for grandifloras; 12-15 inches for hybrid teas; and 8-10 inches for floribundas. This is to encourage vigorous new blooming growth.

When pruning climbing roses, remove only the dead canes, since spring blooms come from last year's growth. Further pruning of climbing roses may be done after spring blooms have finished. Finally, apply rose fertilizer around the plants, stir into the soil and water thoroughly.

As old blooms fade, they should be removed. Prune the old bloom stems back to 1/4 inch above the highest five-parted leaf group on the stem. From where this leaf group joins the stem, a new growth bud will rise to form another bloom stem in 4-5 weeks.

Roses need water regularly so during dry periods, watering may be necessary to keep the roses blooming all summer. A summer mulch around roses is a great help. It protects the shallow roots from drought and summer heat. Choose a degradable mulch that will dissolve into the soil when its mulching days are over - one such as wood or bark chips, pine needles or dried grass clippings.

As winter approaches, thought should be given to providing protection to the roses. The basic idea is to insulate the crown of the plant (where branches originate) against freeze-thaw fluctuations that burst and kill the living tissues. One of the best and easiest ways is to mound soil or rotted compost over the crown. Wait to apply protection until mid-November so that plants are dormant and growth has stopped.

Rose bushes are not that difficult to grow, but they must be tended all year long. With a little care and patience, the rewards will be many beautiful blossoms.

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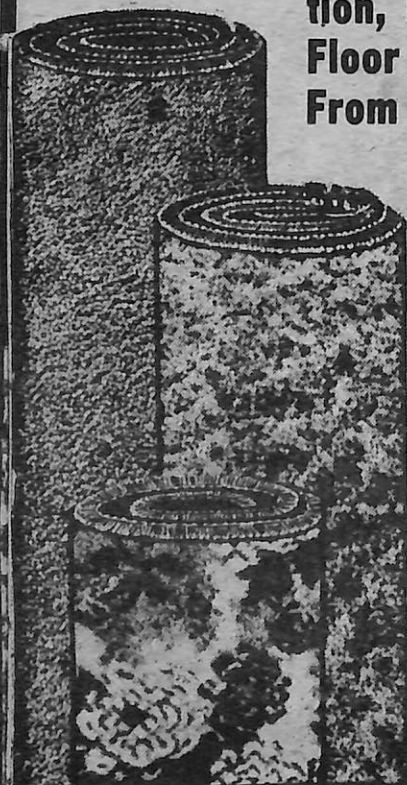
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New fertilizer spikes for growing prize tomatoes are now being marketed by Jobe's, the folks who developed and introduced Jobe's Tree Spikes and Houseplant Spikes.

"Tomatoes have a need for continuing plant food throughout the growing season," said a Jobe's staff horticulturist. "Most every extension service makes such a recommendation. Jobe's new fertilizer spikes for tomatoes are 8-24-8 analysis and last all season long. The same patented process that makes Jobe's Tree and Shrub Spikes long lasting has been incorporated into formulating Tomato Spikes."

Recommendations on the package call for two Tomato Spikes per plant. The spikes are pushed into the soil on opposite sides of the plant about six inches to each side of the stem. Spikes should be pushed one inch below the soil level.

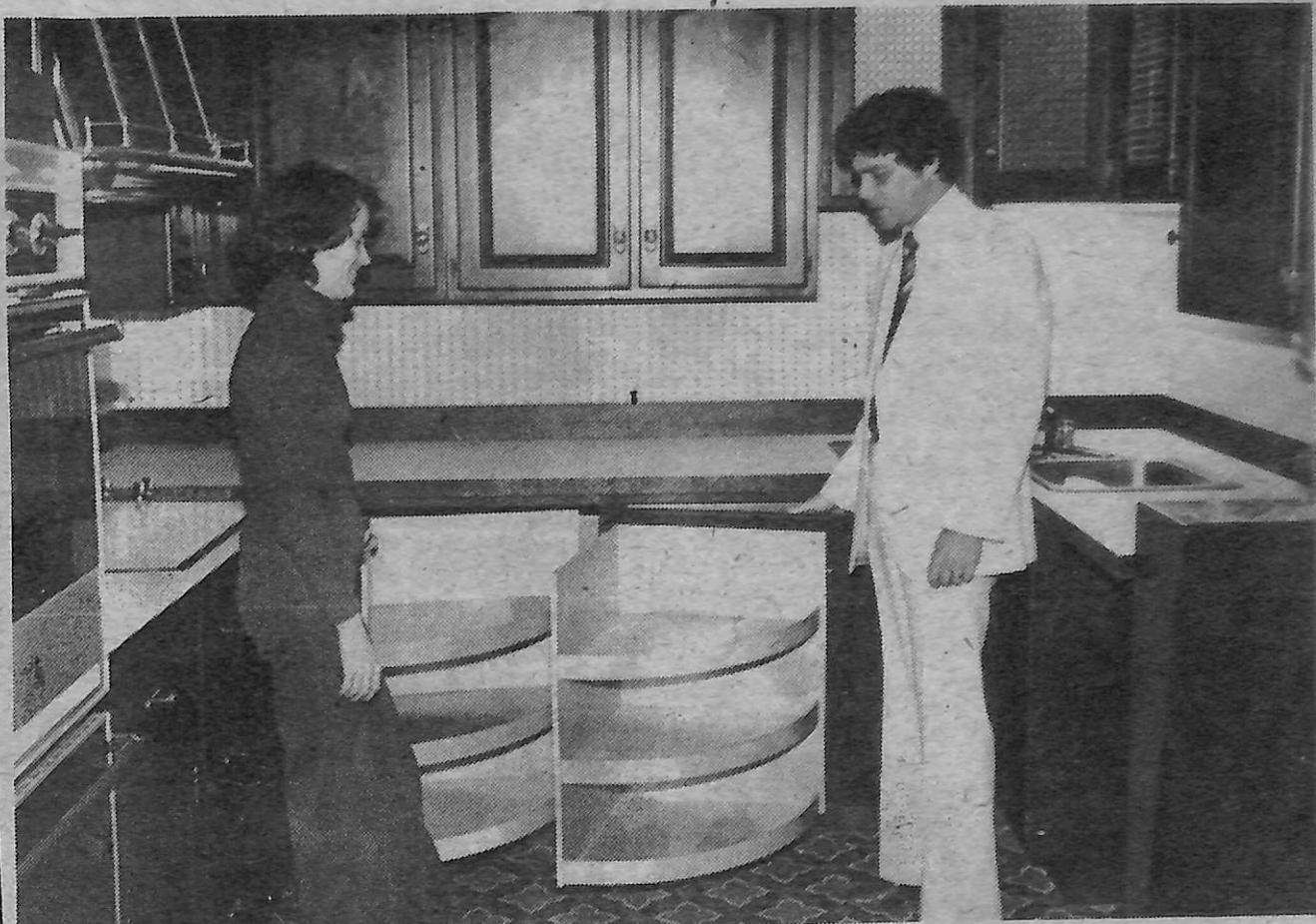
Advantages of this new pre-measured way to feed tomatoes are that no measuring or mixing is needed, there's no chance of over or underfeeding and one application feeds

the tomato plant all season, said Dick Grandy, marketing director for Jobe's.

"Tomato Spikes were in five test markets in 1980. Results far exceeded our expectations," said Grandy.

Jobe's Tomato Spikes are in a bright and colorful new package that is the forerunner of new packaging for the entire line. They're packed 12 spikes per packet and expected to retail for around \$1.59.

Other Jobe's products include the original Jobe's fertilizer spikes for trees and shrubs, Jobe's Evergreen Spikes, Fruit Tree Spikes and Houseplant and Flowerpot Spikes for both green and blooming plants.



Domenic Candido, a designer and Sales Manager for New England Countertop Corporation, explains to Pat Archambo how to best remodel her kitchen. "If you have basic carpentry skills," Candido says, "then the possibility of redoing your own kitchen is certainly within your grasp." Call New England Countertop Corporation for more information on how to best remodel your kitchen. Photo by Jack Devine.

Remodeling Of Kitchens Appealing

By Stephen Gazillo

Today's high interest rates and steep real estate prices are leading more and more people to consider the idea of remodeling their homes as a means of improving their living quarters. Unfortunately, when the price of hiring professional contractors to remodel the kitchen is discovered, the idea loses its appeal.

Are there alternatives? According to Domenic Candido, a designer and sales manager for the Kitchen Warehouse division of New England Countertop Corporation, there is an affordable solution. Candido and partner Stephen Cincotta offer "do-it-yourself" kitchen kits that can save a homeowner as much as 40% in costs and has the advantage of adding the personal touch to the work.

"If you have basic carpentry skills," Candido says, "then the possibility of redoing your own kitchen is certainly within your grasp."

What are the steps to take if you're planning to remodel your own kitchen?

The first step, according to Candido, is to have a plan drawn up which includes both a price range and an architectural design.

What should one look for in a kitchen plan? "Most people want a functional kitchen, one that's easy to work in that utilizes all available space for practical storage, but that is designed so that you're not crawling on all fours looking for a frying pan," Candido explained.

A kitchen should be laid out with consideration for three areas: first, the food preparation area; second, the cooking area; and finally, a planning area often a small desk where a recipe can be studied and a telephone is handy.

Once the plans are ready, it's time to proceed with the work. The easiest part of the job is the removal of existing cabinets and fixtures. Candido said his firm, located in the rear of Rocky's Home Center in Agawam, offers a monthly seminar that provides technical advice to the do-it-yourself person.

"The only professionals required are a plumber and an electrician. Before despairing about this, it should be pointed out that the average cost of installing a new range, changing outlets, and doing the kitchen plumbing runs about \$275," Candido estimated.

After everything is removed, the walls and floor should be prepared to assure that the new cabinets will be level. The new cabinets can be purchased either finished or unfinished, which provides another option for cutting costs.

The most difficult work for the average homemaker would be to cut the formica countertops, but Candido said, since this is done at their factory to the exact specifications of the original work plan, the problem is eliminated.

"We take the mystery out of the kitchen business by showing people what they can do with a given room, how to lay it out, and if they're able, how to do the installation," Candido explained.

What is the average cost of the do-it-yourself kitchen?

"An all-inclusive price for the average kitchen is about \$3,000," Candido declared.

While the work is going on, Candido said, he and Cincotta are available for any technical advice that might be needed. To make the work easier, they provide a complete set of work plans that includes step-by-step procedures.

"If properly planned, you can end up with a kitchen that is a lot easier to work in and that is aesthetically very pleasing," Candido concluded.

For further information on the do-it-yourself method, contact either Domenic Candido or Stephen Cincotta at the Kitchen House at Rocky's.

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History Of Herbs

By Alice Moore - Agawam Garden Club

The study of herbs and experimentation with them as sources of medicine, healing, flavoring, vitamins, fragrance and dyes dates back 5,000 years. The first Chinese herb book in 2700 BC lists 365 medicinal plants and their uses, including "ephedra" from which is derived the modern nasal decongestant Ephedrine.

In 1,000 BC, the Egyptians used garlic, opium, castor oil, coriander and mint for food and indigo for dyes. They fed their slaves and laborers quantities of garlic, believing that it would make them strong enough to build the pyramids.

The ancient Greeks and Romans valued plants as medicine, food seasonings, dyes, room scents, and floor coverings - also for magical charms. The Roman heroes wore garlands of "laurel" which was really the bay plant that we use in soups and stews.

The Romans scattered powdered herbs about their homes and often burned them as incense. The word "perfume" comes from the Latin "per fumum" meaning "by smoke." They crushed the flowers of one fragrant species into their bath water so frequently that it became known as "lavendar" after the Latin "lavare," to bathe.

Herb seeds and plants emigrated to this country with the early settlers and were blended with the folklore learned from the Indians. Colonial ladies made tea of thyme and mint to relieve coughs. In the 17th century, mint was also used as a meat preservative.

Puritan housewives could grow almost every plant they needed for flavorings, garnishes, salads, nosegays, strewing herbs for freshening rooms, repellents for ants, moths, mice and snakes, dyes to color woolens and teasel to tease up the naps. They also made soothing hot teas, salves and lotions for treating cuts, relieving coughs and toothaches, or easing pains of childbirth.

An interest in herbs is markedly increasing in our day. Ther perennial foxglove is still used as the source of digitalis for heart ailments. Mints aid digestion. Parsley eliminates bad breath.

Teas of various herbs have many uses - yarrow for relieving fevers and colds, mullein for asthmatic complaints, catnip, garlic and vervain for good digestion, chamomile and lemon balm for nerves. Aloe is nature's bandaid plant. Sage tea is termed the drink of longevity.

To make teas, pour boiling water over a handful of leaves or stems and steep about 15-20 minutes. Honey may be added for sweetness. Horehound tea and candy are remedies for sore throats.

Some of the most popular culinary herbs are sweet basil, marjoram, oregano, sage, chives, rosemary, savory, tarragon, and thyme. These may be used dry or fresh to enhance the flavor of our foods. Use herbs sparingly in order not to overpower the food flavors.

Did you know that violet leaves are high in vitamins A and C? In a half cup of cooked violet leaves, you have as much A and C as in four oranges. Violet leaves in the spring are plentiful and available to nearly everyone.

Tansy and pennyroyal are good insect repellents. Calendulas and bedstraw yield dyes. Fragrant potpourris may be made by drying rose petals, lavender blossoms or other fragrant leaves to which spices and dried citrus peels are added.

The study of herbs is wide and varied, and there are many books available on the subject. It is best to start with a small kitchen garden. They do not require rich soil and most species enjoy sun. Many times other herb enthusiasts will be glad to share their surplus plants.

Jolly Green Thumb

BY MARY FUREY CRYMES

If ye've gathered ye rosebuds while ye may, and dried all ye (make it "your") excess herbs, it's time to put them to work making gifts. Some unusual and welcome remembrances can be made of them now.

Hopefully, you've collected some attractive bottles and containers. Pardon the pun, but seasoned herbalists never pass up a container. They shine up mayonnaise and applesauce jars and ketchup bottles and fill them again with herbal gifts from the kitchen ... pungent vinegars and herb based sauces, made in advance so flavors can "marry." Small molds and tins are used for herbed butters and spreads, usually prepared right before giving.

Moving along, we come to the herb-based gifts for bath and boudoir. Some of the nicest (and incidentally something you'll want to keep some of for yourself) are bath preparations. It will bring out the creative you as you mix the dried herbs - lemon verbena, bergamot, thyme, the mints, rosemary - ah, the sweetness of the smell and names. Layer herbs singly or mixtures in jars with a handful of unscented bath crystals from the drug store; seal, and decorate.

Or, you could do small bath bags - cut into interesting shapes and stitched from cheesecloth. A jar filled with these is a delight. Other super gifts are herb-scented sleep pillows, fragrant sachets and potpourris.

Or, you could give a bit of history - a tussie mussie. In olde Englande this was a miniature bouquet carried by ladies of quality to stand between their aristocratic noses and sordid street smells. Fresh flowers and herbs were blended for one-time use. Today's tussies are home decorations, made of dried garden blossoms or lasting silk flowers mixed with herb sprigs, and tied fetchingly with ribbon. Mix and mingle, and put the bouquet in an inverted widemouth jar or one of the cork-topped glass containers found in kitchen shops. Tell the happy recipient that when she wants a fresh scent in a room, she removes the lid and allows the delicious tussie-mussie to do its thing.



Karen Powers, left and owner and operator of Fini's Plant Farm on James Street, Feeding Hills, Al Fini, continue preparations for the coming spring which means many long days and nights. Easter, Mother's Day and Memorial Day plants will soon be available at Fini's Indoor and Outdoor Plant Farm. Photo by Jack Devine.

Fini's: House of Quality Plants

By Rita White

With the coming of spring comes the urge in us to join in the festivities. We do our spring cleaning, we begin some home remodeling, whatever. Once we've accomplished all the basic groundwork, we then put the finishing touches on things. One of the nicest finishing touches in home is plants. They help to bring the outdoors in and make a home seem more alive.

However, many of us are totally unprepared for the care of indoor plants. We try to read whatever literature has come with a plant (usually a small plastic stick with instructions), but these instructions are prepared to serve anyone all across the country and do not always cover conditions here in the east.

We visited Fini's Plant Farm in Feeding Hills and got a few useful tips which may help you have beautiful, healthy plants in your home.

Fini's Farm was at one time a 150-acre farm. Today, there are some 30 to 40 acres of vegetables and 30,000 square feet of greenhouses. And due to the popularity of plants today, the footage is increasing.

Obviously, there are hundreds of types of plants and they all have their own peculiarities so it would be impossible to tell you everything. But we shall try to cover some generalities here.

Probably the most common problem with indoor plants is either overwatering or underwatering. An easy way to tell is if the lower stem is mushy, you are watering too much. If the leaves are yellow and crisp, you are not giving enough water.

Humidity plays a major role in many houseplants. During the summer, some of the plants in the greenhouse are misted 100 times a day. If you have an asparagus fern or piggyback in your home, for example, you should mist them two or three times a day.

Another important factor is light. Many plant guides tell you to place plants in indirect light. In New England, it is almost impossible to burn a plant. Even in the greenhouses, shading is only used between April and October and then in moderation.

Most plants need a good deal of light. If you have plants in an area that only provides light for some of them, rotate them on a regular basis every two or three days. One way to tell if your plants aren't getting enough light is if the new growth is smaller at maturity than the leaves that were on the plant when you got it.

Any idea how much to feed your plants? Don't feel bad. Most people don't know. When you buy a fertilizer, it will usually tell you to feed your plants once a month or every six weeks or some similar calendar. A plant that you get from a greenhouse has been fertilized daily. You take it home and don't feed it for six weeks, you are going to have a sick plant.

You must remember when you buy a plant from a greenhouse such as Fini's that you are buying a plant that has been grown under artificial conditions. The best possible conditions for that particular plant. The proper amount of water, fertilizer, light, temperature, humidity, etc. It is almost impossible to recreate this perfect setting at home. So consider where you will be placing your plants and what type of plants will fit your particular environment.

Al Fini tells us that the most common question he gets is how to make spider plants have babies. Contrary to belief, there is no such thing as a male and female spider plant. They are all alike and capable of producing babies. There are three things to remember. 1) The plant must be mature. It must be pot bound. Most of them do well in a 4 1/2 inch pot until they have babies. 2) Spider plants need a lot of calcium which is bone meal, so feed it well. 3) Spider plants need changing day length. They do fairly well between February through June when the days change length a great deal and again between September through November. However, you must also make the necessary adjustment for them in December and January and again in July and August.

The best advice is, of course, to get your plants directly from a greenhouse such as Fini's and ask questions. Learn about your particular plant.

Fini's can supply you with almost anything you are looking for. They specialize in the holiday plants, such as upcoming Easter. You'll find all the usual Easter plants available then they will be ready with plants for Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and spring plants in general.

One of their newest features, only two years old, is plant rentals to restaurants and businesses. Fini will supply them with fresh plants and exchanges them every week or so that they always have beautiful healthy plants.

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Jolly Green Thumb

BY MARY FUREY CRYMES

Speaking of garden catalogs, as we were, we come to the "think small" department. That's the section devoted to the mini-fruits and vegetables developed by those terrific, talented hybridizers for intense gardeners. Lots that's new and praiseworthy there.

Mini or dwarf varieties fill the needs of city gardeners and the suburbanites with little space, plus the ever-growing container crowd.

All are in luck — the compact vegetables do not sacrifice taste or quality. They offer the same mouth-watering goodness as their bigger brothers and sisters. In one catalog's "grow small" pages, you're apt to find:

— A cucumber called "Bush Whopper," yielding six to eight-inch cukes on dwarf, mounded plants, ideal for pickling.

— A new heat-resistant cabbage, "Darkri," crispy, six-inch heads that keep coming through the summer.

— A "Golden Midget" sweet corn, giving you four to five-inch ears in abundance from 30-inch high plants, in 60 days or so.

— A cantaloupe named "Short and Sweet," with a multitude of small, lush fruits in just 75 days from plant mounds that won't put out trailing vines to gobble up space.

All this, plus a tomato called "Goldie," a big yielder in hanging baskets; a hardy miniature eggplant; a cluster-type honeydew, with fruits five inches wide; tiny carrots; even a watermelon that requires no more room than bush summer squash.

No need to equate monotony with thinking small. All your favorites are here amid the mini-vegetables selection.

And the catalogs offer planting help. One features a new portable patio tower to take advantage of vertical space. Two feet square at the base, four feet high, it features a top watering reservoir. It's worth the price if you're getting into the mini-growing game.

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Lawnmower - Farm Equipment Needs See Jackie At Chriscola Farm Equipment



Farmers for years have been using Chriscola Farm Equipment on Suffield Street for all their farm equipment needs. Chriscola also has supplies for lawn and garden care, including a many fine sit-down lawnmowers. Call Jack Chriscola (in picture) or any member of the Chriscola family down at the store. Photo by Jack Devine.

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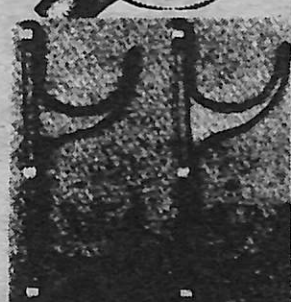


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Electricity is all around you and a good and faithful servant it is, too. But it also is extremely dangerous if you are careless or fail to take certain precautions.

Don't assume that only extremely high voltages are lethal. Even the ordinary 110-120 volt household circuits — under certain conditions — can prove fatal. And once you're dead, you're dead, whether the voltage was high or low.

A number of factors determine how deadly the electric current is — the amount of current, its frequency, the path it takes through your body and how conductive your skin is at that moment.

On a dry day you may notice only a minor tingle if you encounter electric current. On a wet or humid day, or if your skin is wet, such an encounter could knock you down.

Keep this in mind when working in damp places with electrical items. The kitchen, bath, basement and outdoors are all dangerous areas.

Damp cement floors should be avoided. Stand on a dry rubber mat. Using electric mowers and electric blowers on damp lawns is potentially dangerous.

Fortunately, in recent years manufacturers have been providing a means for easily grounding most portable power tools and electric appliances. This is the reason for that funny-looking three-prong plug on the wires of electric drills, hedge trimmers, even washing machines.

That odd prong, the round one, is attached to a third wire. If your house is not equipped with the proper outlet to handle such a plug, get an adapter. This two-prong plug fits into your



wall outlet, has an opening for the three prongs on the tool. A wire on the adapter is connected to the screw on the switchplate of the wall outlet.

If the wall outlet itself is properly grounded, so will the appliance be grounded. If you are not sure, have your wall outlets checked by an electrician. The grounding wire is the third wire in the appliance cord. Should a short develop, the current would find its way through that wire and blow a fuse instead of passing through your hand. Minor current leakage would be drained off through that wire.

Small hand tools are also being made with insulated cases and handles to eliminate danger of electric shock.

But play safe. Rubberized boots or gloves outdoors are a smart precaution.

Check older tools and appliances for leakage. Use a test lamp, one lead against the metal frame of the plugged-in appliance, the other against an object known to be grounded, such as a cold water pipe. If the bulb lights, there is a short. Try the plug both ways in the outlet when testing.

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FLOOR FIXER — Got a wood floor that squeaks annoyingly when you walk over it? Sprinkle the offending places liberally with talcum powder from a shaker, then sweep back and forth over it with a broom until it seeps in. You may have to polish the floor to remove powder, but the floor should be squeakless.

FACIAL FUN — Grandmother's beloved camomile tea is a wonderful, fast pick-me-up for fading skin. Make a batch of tea and put some in a spray bottle. Wash your face with warm water, then spritz on the tea before applying makeup. Keep another bottle filled with mineral water for fast makeup redos. Spray face with mineral water mist, then add makeup as needed.

Flowers: Company To Cultivate

By Jeanne Hofmann, Agawam Library Staff

Plants, like people, have personalities. Most gardeners cultivate likes and dislikes for certain flowers as sincerely as they do their relationships with humans. Plants have histories, too. Researching that subject can enhance the waiting time between seed and blossom, and might even turn weeding from a chore into a pleasantly philosophical pastime.

Consider the sunflower - court emblem of Louis XIV and favorite of the painter Van Gogh, who often decorated his bedroom with giant bunches of them. He once wanted to fill his studio walls with only paintings of them. To Van Gogh, they were symbols of the sun, the color of light, happiness and eternal renewal.

In ancient Greece, the iris was named after the goddess of rainbows. In 1950 B.C. an Egyptian pharaoh brought some back from Syria as spoils of war. Since these flowers were considered essential to love potions, they were given to physicians and sorcerers, rather than grown for their beauty. They were used to treat a variety of health complaints, too - such as ague, shivering, headache, falling teeth, and snakebite. In Japan, iris can still be found growing on the roofs of houses. This is due to a tradition that the Japanese were once forbidden to grow in their garden any plants not ordered by the Emperor. Since iris root was a vital ingredient of facepowder, Japanese women got around the edict by cultivating iris on their roofs!

Books have been written on the history and mystique of roses. One Grecian legend of the origin of the rose is that it sprang from Venus' blushes when she was observed bathing by Jupiter. The Roman emperor Nero perfumed his banquets with them. Caligula walked to bed each night on a carpet of red ones. Writers and artists in every century have used them for inspiration. For perfume and beauty, the rose is unique in appeal and the sages all seem to agree with Shakespeare's Juliet that "...a rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

Unknown to the west before the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, the tulip takes its name from the Turkish word "dulband," a turban which the full petaled one closely resembles. Unlike the rose, the tulip has seldom been the inspiration of poets. In fact, some writers and botanists have been downright prejudiced against them. Thomas Fuller (circa 1550) said, "The tulip is no more than a well-complexioned stink." Perhaps it seemed too coldly perfect to arouse his fiery passions. But to the New Englander, yearning for the promise and renewal of spring, the tulip is as welcome to the soul as the first robin's song.

Shakespeare mentions violets in his plays no less than fifteen times, and they were the favored flowers of the ancient Greeks. One of Albrecht Durer's most beautiful watercolors is a simple bunch of violets. As medicine, they were prescribed in Chaucer's time for headaches and insomnia, thusly...

"Seethe the violets in water and soak well your feet to the ankles. At bedtime, bind this herb to the temples and sleep well, by the grace of God." Recipes using violets have been popular through history. In the east, they were used in sherbets and in salads, scattered on lettuce with sliced onions. A favorite dessert of Queen Elizabeth I was "Mon Amy," a pudding which was covered with violets just before serving.

First cousin to violets, the mischievous faced pansies have been beloved for their charm through the centuries. Nicknames abound: "Call-me-to-you," "Kit-fun-in-the-streets," and "Pink-of-my-John" to name a few. "Heartsease" was the most popular nickname and can be traced to the Elizabethan belief that the juice of pansies "...on sleeping eyelids laid will make a man or woman madly dote on the next live creature that it sees."

Whatever your favorite flower, there is probably a story about it to enhance your pleasure in its beauty. Maybe you will enjoy your garden even more this year if you dig into its history as well as its topsoil!

Granger School At Feeding Hills Florist



Recently students at Granger School went just down the street to Feeding Hills Florist to get a look-see on how a florist puts together some of the many items that bring flowers into your home. Here, Vernon Gold (center) of Feeding Hills Florist instructs students from left, Matthew Toczko, Laurie Bourbeau, Ryan Hines and Karey Shameklis on his art. Photo by Jack Devine.

Energy Savings And More

With rising fuel costs — and they will keep rising — America has become energy conscious. Alternative energy sources have captured the imaginations of most people. Solar, wind, wood and coal can offer real cost savings but are not available to many people. Apartment dwellers can't just install a solar collector on their landlord's building. Urban home owners may not have access to wood for a wood burning stove. Bramley Products has assembled a catalogue of energy saving devices, information on energy conservation, and more. The energy-saving devices can be used anywhere — in apartments and urban homes as well as rural homes.

The company has selected each item with great care. Of the thousands of products considered, only those high quality items that could provide real savings, were reasonably priced, and could be installed by any weekend handyman, were chosen. Every item has been approved as energy-saving effective by a member of the Association of Energy Engineers. And every item is backed by Bramley's complete satisfaction guarantee.

"As concerned energy conservers, we have selected only those energy saving products that will contribute the most to conserving energy at a reasonable initial cost, while maintaining comfort — if you are not comfortable you will probably give up trying to conserve," says Walton Mendelson, company president.

The catalogue is a maverick. It gives many pages of energy saving information; information that can be put to use by anyone for immediate savings, without buying a thing. Anyone reading the catalogue will be surprised by one other thing: over a third of it is recipes. Mendelson explained that, "We were worried about how to present the catalogue.

Many mail order companies send out several extra catalogues to their mailing list. They hope you won't be able to throw them out fast enough; maybe you will keep one and if you keep it you've taken the first step towards ordering. We feel this is a wasteful technique; if the catalogue really offers something, information, good products, or amusement,

it will be kept and read. That is all that we want. If you are interested in fuel saving — or food — there is something in the catalogue for you."

For a copy of "The Most Unusual Catalogue," send \$1.00 for postage and handling to: Bramley Products, P.O. Box 07125, Cleveland, Ohio 44107.

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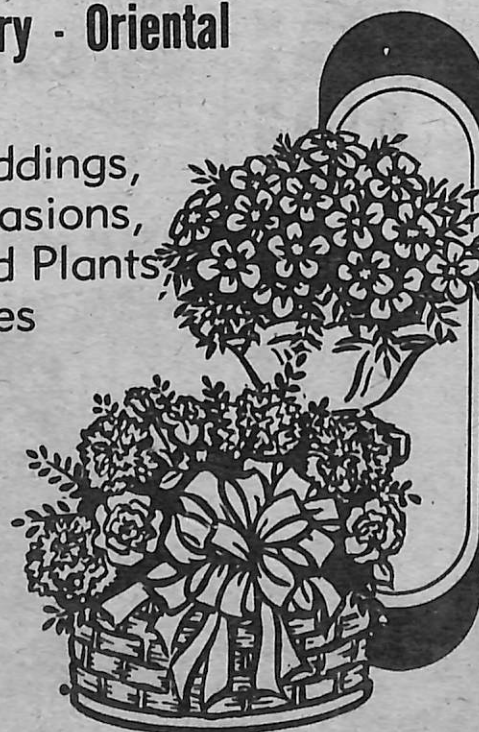
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